

# Louisiana Economic Vitals

## Friday, July 11, 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 JUNE/JULY 2025 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[Ascentek Announces \\$50 Million Investment to Expand and Enhance Manufacturing and Distribution Facility in Shreveport](#) - June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Neuro.io Announces \\$100 Million Innovation Campus in Houma, Positioning Louisiana's Bayou Region at the Forefront of AI Development and Application](#) - June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Linde Announces New Investment to Support Blue Ammonia Plant at RiverPlex MegaPark](#) - June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

[Governor Landry Leads Louisiana Delegation to International Paris Air Show](#) - June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Louisiana Innovative Company of the Year Hapttech Expands in New Orleans](#) - June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Super Bowl LIX's Stunning \\$1.25 Billion Impact for Louisiana— Impacting 10,000 jobs & a Huge Economic Development Win](#) - June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

### Direct questions and comments to:

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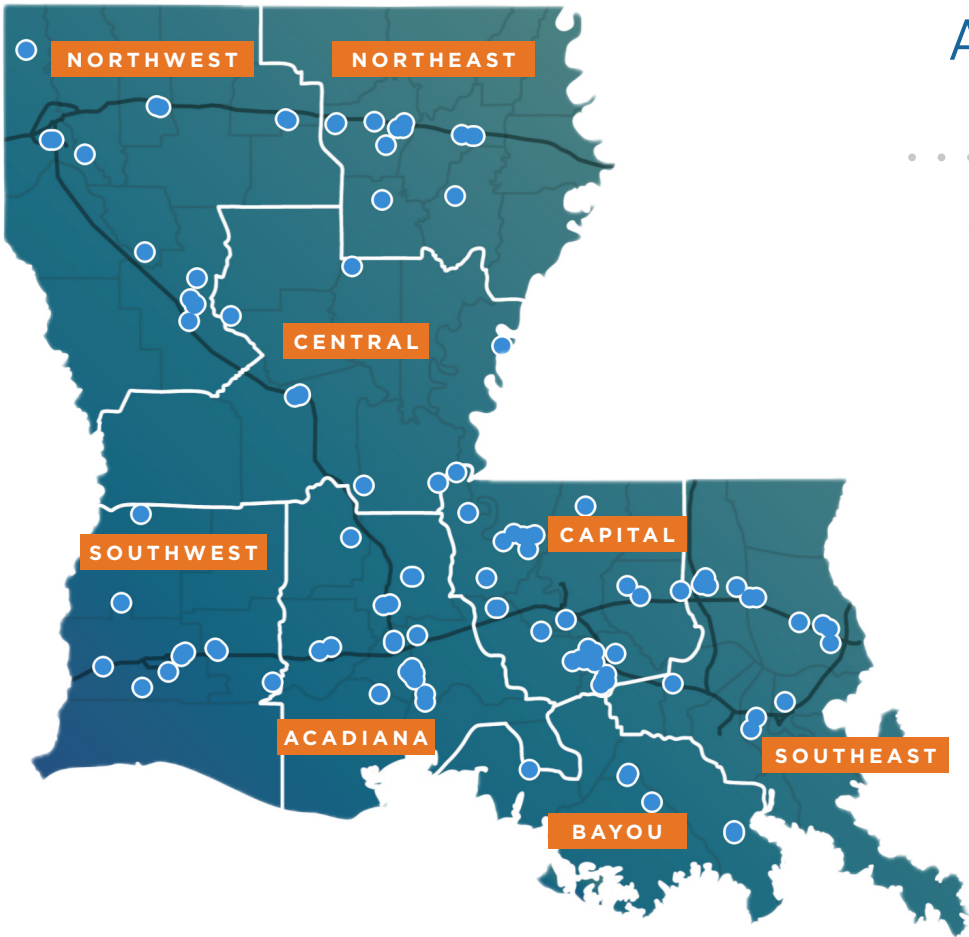
# LED PROJECT PIPELINE

Since the start of the current administration, LED has announced 49 projects that will account for over \$63.2 billion USD of investment and almost 6,850 direct new jobs

As of 07/10/2025, LED is involved with and tracking 200 distinct projects, with a combined value of over \$191.7 billion USD and with the potential to create more than 55,000 direct new jobs

# CERTIFIED SITE PROGRAM

Since its inception, Louisiana Economic Development has Certified 158 Industrial sites, with portions or all of 31 of them moved into higher commerce. At full build out, that equates to over \$24.1 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 . . . . .	28
Central . . . . .	8
Northeast . . . . .	13
Northwest . . . . .	15
Southeast . . . . .	18
Southwest . . . . .	11

TOTAL 122



# 1. LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

The following tables provide information on the proportion of a state's (including states in the South) population that is age 16 years old and older and participating in the labor force with a comparison to the United States. A table with unemployment rates for these states and the U.S. is also provided. Additionally, labor force participation and unemployment rates for regions in Louisiana are also provided.

Table 1. State Labor Force Participation Rates in the South and the U.S.					
State	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alabama	58	58	57.4	-	0.6
Arkansas	58.4	58.4	58.2	-	0.2
Florida	57.9	58	58.6	-0.1	-0.7
Georgia	60.7	60.8	61.8	-0.1	-1.1
Kentucky	58.4	58.4	58.1	-	0.3
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>58.2</b>	-	<b>-0.3</b>
Mississippi	56.2	56.2	55	-	1.2
Missouri	63.4	63.4	63.4	-	-
North Carolina	59.5	59.6	60.4	-0.1	-0.9
Oklahoma	62.6	62.7	62.8	-0.1	-0.2
South Carolina	57.5	57.5	58.1	-	-0.6
Tennessee	59.8	59.7	59.6	0.1	0.2
Texas	64.9	64.9	64.9	-	-
U.S.	62.4	62.6	62.6	-0.2	-0.2

Table 2. Regional Labor Force Participation Rates in Louisiana					
Region	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	58.2%	58.0%	57.9%	0.2	0.3
Baton Rouge	62.4%	62.3%	62.3%	0.1	0.1
Hammond	56.1%	56.0%	55.5%	0.1	0.6
Houma - Bayou Cane - Thibodaux	57.6%	57.3%	57.5%	0.3	0.1
Lafayette	61.8%	61.7%	61.2%	0.1	0.6
Lake Charles	53.2%	53.0%	52.7%	0.2	0.5
Monroe	56.3%	55.9%	56.0%	0.4	0.3
New Orleans - Metairie	62.2%	62.1%	61.9%	0.1	0.3
Shreveport - Bossier	58.0%	57.9%	57.5%	0.1	0.5
Slidell - Mandeville - Covington	58.7%	58.3%	57.8%	0.4	0.9
Bogalusa	54.2%	54.3%	54.4%	-0.1	-0.2
DeRidder	52.7%	53.0%	54.5%	-0.3	-1.8
Minden	49.2%	49.2%	49.1%	-	0.1
Morgan City	51.8%	51.8%	53.2%	-	-1.4
Natchitoches	54.0%	53.9%	51.4%	0.1	2.6
New Iberia	54.7%	54.7%	54.9%	-	-0.2
Opelousas	53.4%	53.3%	52.8%	0.1	0.6
Ruston	54.5%	54.4%	53.8%	0.1	0.7

**Table 3. State Unemployment Rates in the South and the U.S.**

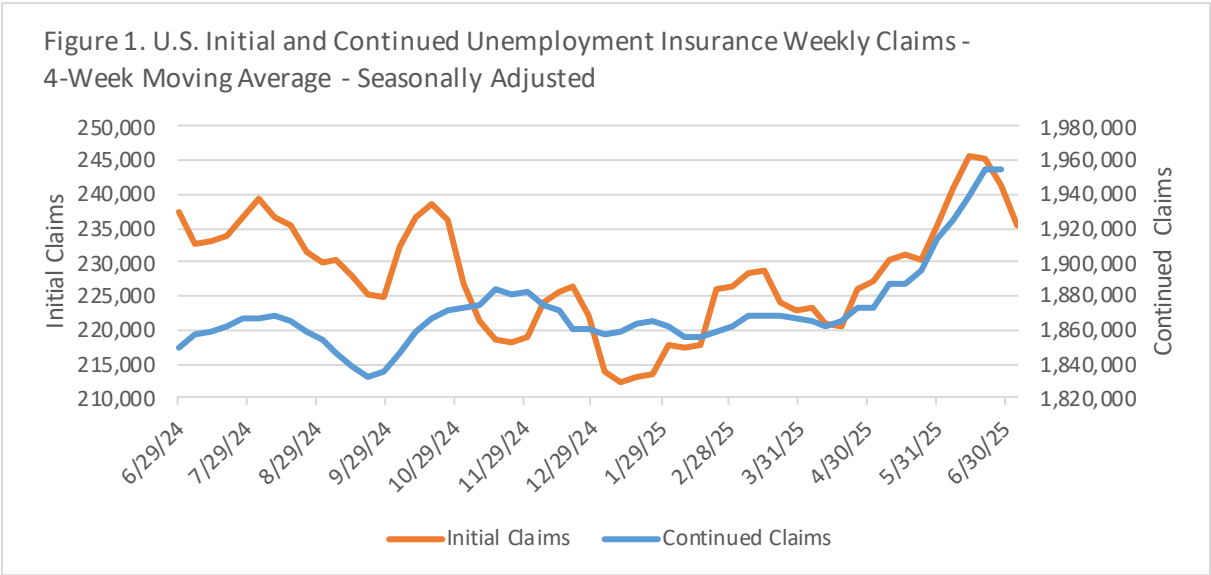
State	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alabama	3.3	3.3	2.9	-	0.4
Arkansas	3.7	3.7	3.4	-	0.3
Florida	3.7	3.7	3.3	-	0.4
Georgia	3.5	3.6	3.5	-0.1	-
Kentucky	5	5.2	4.9	-0.2	0.1
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Mississippi	4	4	2.8	-	1.2
Missouri	4	3.9	3.7	0.1	0.3
North Carolina	3.7	3.7	3.6	-	0.1
Oklahoma	3.1	3.2	3.3	-0.1	-0.2
South Carolina	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1
Tennessee	3.5	3.5	3.2	-	0.3
Texas	4.1	4.1	4.1	-	-
U.S.	4.2	4.2	4	-	0.2

**Table 4. Regional Unemployment Rates in Louisiana**

Region	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	4.4	3.6	3.6	0.8	0.8
Baton Rouge	4.4	3.7	3.6	0.7	0.8
Hammond	5.3	4.5	4.3	0.8	1
Houma - Bayou Cane - Thibodaux	4.2	3.5	3.4	0.7	0.8
Lafayette	4	3.4	3.4	0.6	0.6
Lake Charles	4.9	4.1	3.9	0.8	1
Monroe	5.1	4.6	4.4	0.5	0.7
New Orleans - Metairie	4.6	4	3.9	0.6	0.7
Shreveport - Bossier	4.7	4	4	0.7	0.7
Slidell - Mandeville - Covington	4.3	3.5	3.4	0.8	0.9
Bogalusa	5	4.5	4.4	0.5	0.6
DeRidder	4.6	3.7	3.5	0.9	1.1
Minden	5.5	4.7	4.7	0.8	0.8
Morgan City	5.5	5	4.5	0.5	1
Natchitoches	6.1	5.3	4.9	0.8	1.2
New Iberia	5	4.3	4	0.7	1
Opelousas	5.3	4.6	4.7	0.7	0.6
Ruston	5	4.2	4.1	0.8	0.9

Initial claims represent people who are newly filing for unemployment benefits and are a leading indicator of labor market weakness. Continued claims represent people who are still receiving benefits and they reflect the persistence of unemployment. If both initial and continued claims are rising together, it suggests new layoffs and difficulty finding new employment. If initial claims rise but continued claims remain stable or fall, it might indicate a short-term shock rather than a potential recession. Declining continued claims, even if initial claims stay elevated, could signal that people are getting back to work quickly, and if continued claims rise while initial claims fall, that could signal a slowing rate of new layoffs, but ongoing unemployment problems.

Source: U.S. Employment and Training Administration, 4-Week Moving Average of Initial Claims and Continued Claims, retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis;  
[fred.stlouisfed.org](https://fred.stlouisfed.org)



## 2. COMMODITIES

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

Source: [fred.stlouisfed.org](https://fred.stlouisfed.org)

Table 5. Energy Commodities, Weekly					
Commodity	7/4/25	6/27/25	7/5/24	% Change	
				(WoW)	(YoY)
Brent Crude Oil	\$69.61	\$69.96	\$88.02	-0.5%	-20.9%
WTI Crude Oil	\$67.43	\$66.78	\$84.61	1.0%	-20.3%
Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.19	\$3.30	\$2.08	-3.3%	53.4%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas	\$3.01	\$3.05	\$3.38	-1.3%	-10.9%

Table 6. Energy Commodities, Monthly					
Commodity	6/1/25	5/1/25	6/1/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Diesel	\$3.60	\$3.50	\$3.82	2.9%	-5.8%
EU Natural Gas	N/A	\$11.62	\$10.11	N/A	N/A
Asia Liquefied Natural Gas	N/A	\$10.80	\$10.85	N/A	N/A
Global Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.02	\$3.12	\$2.54	-3.2%	18.9%
Brent Crude Oil Global	\$71.44	\$64.45	\$82.25	10.8%	-13.1%
WTI Crude Oil Global	\$68.17	\$62.17	\$79.77	9.7%	-14.5%

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

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

Table 7. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of July 10, 2025							
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar (\$)	Unit of Measurement	% Change			
				Daily	Weekly	Monthly	(YoY)
Soybeans	\$1,003.62	\$10.04	\$/Bu	-0.83%	-4.90%	-4.49%	-10.16%
Wheat	\$553.01	\$5.53	\$/Bu	1.01%	-1.73%	3.42%	-3.28%
Lumber	\$608.05	\$6.08	\$/MBF	-0.60%	-0.67%	-0.42%	36.59%
Palm Oil	\$4,147.00	\$41.47	\$/MT	-0.29%	1.32%	8.02%	5.39%
Sugar (No. 11)	\$16.41	\$0.16	\$/Lb	1.10%	0.25%	-0.06%	-15.50%
Coffee	\$287.62	\$2.88	\$/Lb	0.91%	-0.30%	-17.65%	17.38%
Corn	\$410.56	\$4.11	\$/Bu	-0.22%	-4.91%	-6.05%	-0.05%
Rice	\$12.75	\$0.13	\$/CWT	-0.39%	1.49%	-6.36%	-14.05%
Orange Juice	\$263.87	\$2.64	\$/Lb	6.03%	25.35%	-3.98%	-42.06%

### 3. REAL ESTATE METRICS

Regional housing market indicators can reflect local economic conditions, affordability, demand vs, supply, migration trends, and cost of living. The median listing price vs. the U.S. shows whether homes in the local area are more or less expensive than the national average.

Source: [realtor.com](https://www.realtor.com)

**Table 8. Median Days on Market by CBSA, Monthly (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

CBSA	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	77	73	58	5.5%	32.8%
Baton Rouge	66	64	59	3.1%	11.9%
Bogalusa	71	68	66	4.4%	7.6%
DeRidder	89	77	84	15.6%	6.0%
Hammond	54	53	65	1.9%	-16.9%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	86	80	77	7.5%	11.7%
Lafayette	72	72	71	0.0%	1.4%
Lake Charles	82	79	81	3.8%	1.2%
Minden	68	58	58	17.2%	17.2%
Monroe	65	68	64	-4.4%	1.6%
Morgan City	101	101	65	0.0%	55.4%
Natchitoches	92	76	68	21.1%	35.3%
New Iberia	69	70	68	-1.4%	1.5%
New Orleans-Metairie	71	65	66	9.2%	7.6%
Opelousas	71	68	101	4.4%	-29.7%
Ruston	58	48	67	20.8%	-13.4%
Shreveport-Bossier City	67	64	54	4.7%	24.1%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	64	60	57	6.7%	12.3%

**Table 9. Median Listing Price Versus the United States, by CBSA, Monthly (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

CBSA	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	55.3%	53.4%	52.3%	3.5%	5.8%
Baton Rouge	69.6%	69.3%	71.3%	0.4%	-2.4%
Bogalusa	46.5%	44.0%	50.6%	5.6%	-8.2%
DeRidder	57.4%	58.3%	61.7%	-1.5%	-6.9%
Hammond	64.6%	65.5%	60.2%	-1.3%	7.3%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	49.9%	52.3%	52.4%	-4.5%	-4.7%
Lafayette	61.9%	61.4%	61.4%	0.8%	0.8%
Lake Charles	54.2%	54.0%	55.2%	0.4%	-1.7%
Minden	36.7%	40.8%	48.9%	-9.9%	-24.8%
Monroe	56.6%	57.6%	58.9%	-1.7%	-3.8%
Morgan City	40.2%	40.9%	44.7%	-1.7%	-10.0%
Natchitoches	66.0%	67.0%	67.1%	-1.6%	-1.6%
New Iberia	40.3%	36.4%	44.3%	10.7%	-9.2%
New Orleans-Metairie	73.7%	73.9%	74.8%	-0.2%	-1.5%
Opelousas	43.5%	42.5%	43.4%	2.4%	0.3%
Ruston	62.1%	62.7%	58.5%	-1.0%	6.1%
Shreveport-Bossier City	59.2%	59.1%	54.3%	0.2%	9.0%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	79.4%	78.4%	79.5%	1.2%	-0.2%



## 4. PORTS

The following figures offer a snapshot of short-run export and import activity at each Louisiana port, reflecting the region's economic conditions, including trade patterns, industrial strengths, and supply chain dynamics.

Source: [portwatch.imf.org](http://portwatch.imf.org)

Figure 2. Baton Rouge Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

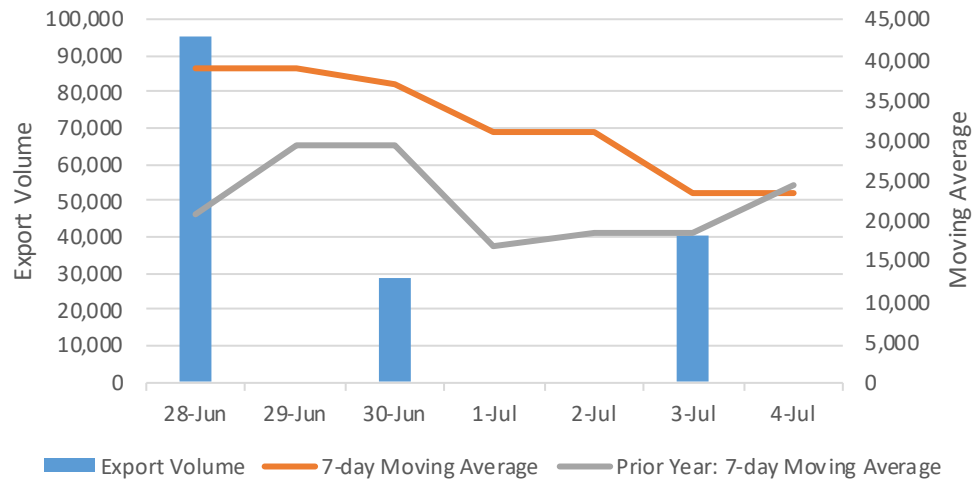


Figure 3. New Orleans Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

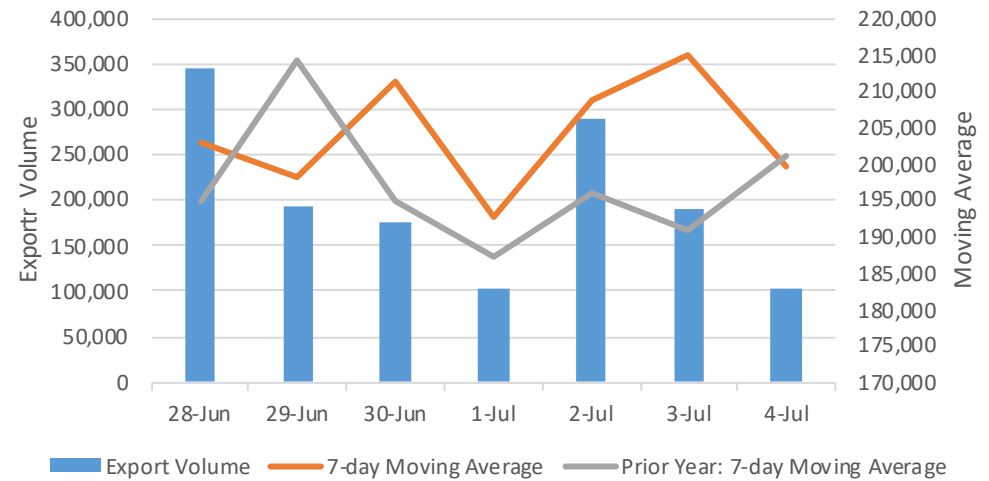


Figure 4. South Louisiana Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

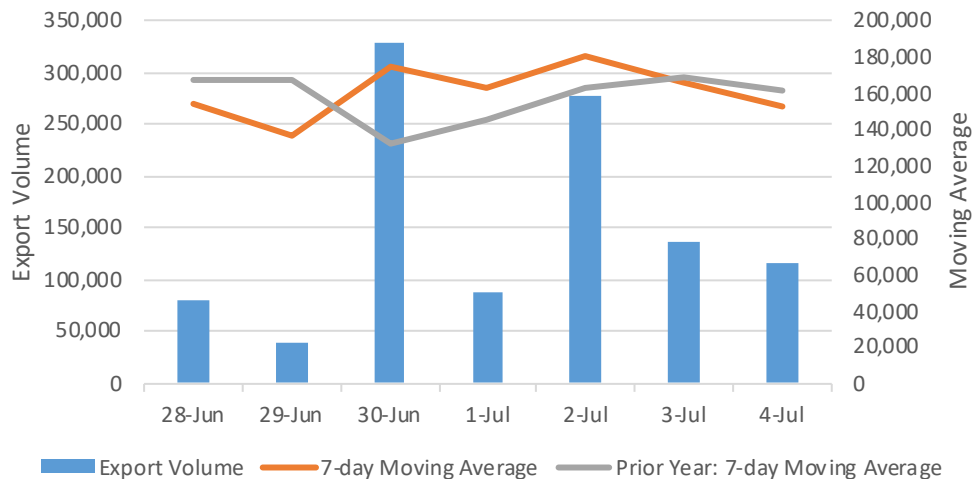


Figure 5. Lake Charles Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

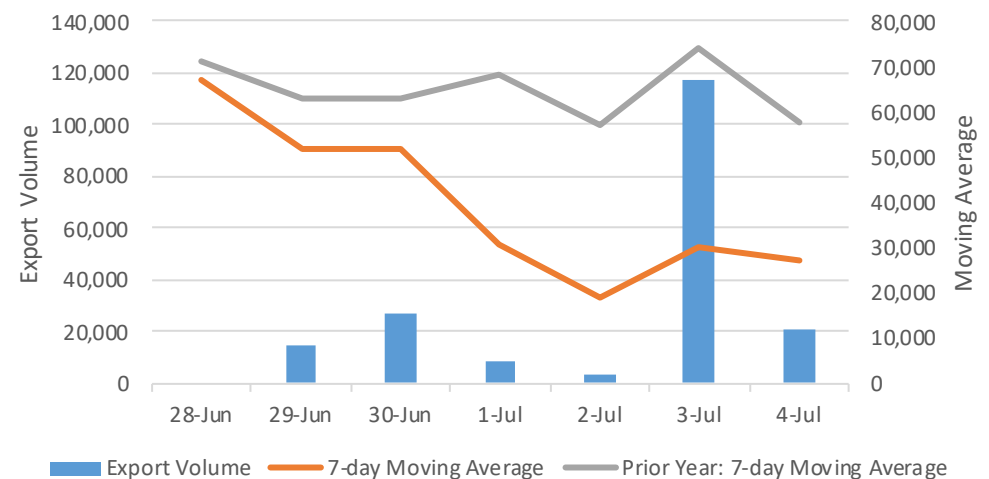


Figure 6. Baton Rouge Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

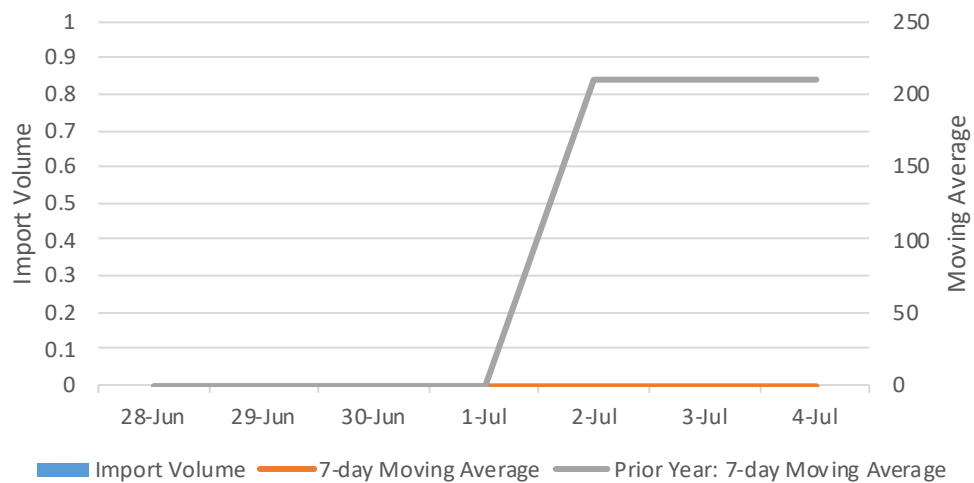


Figure 7. New Orleans Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

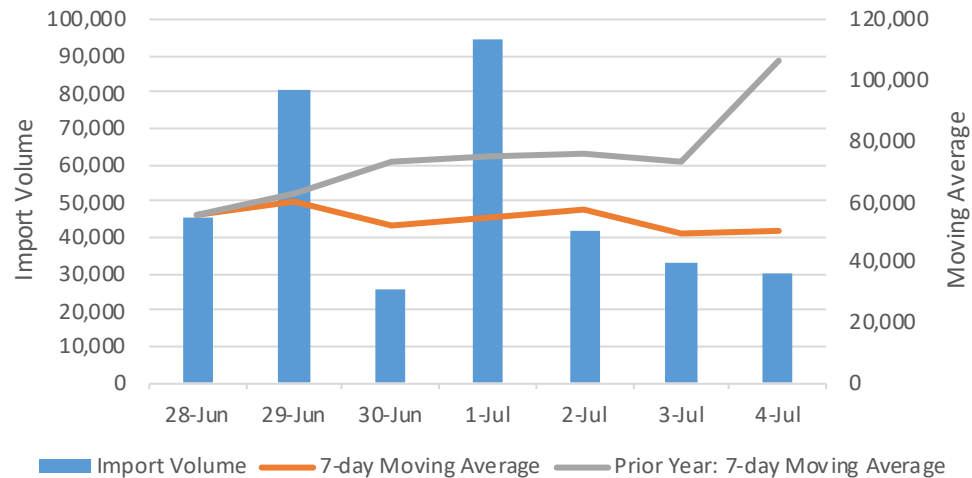


Figure 8. South Louisiana Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

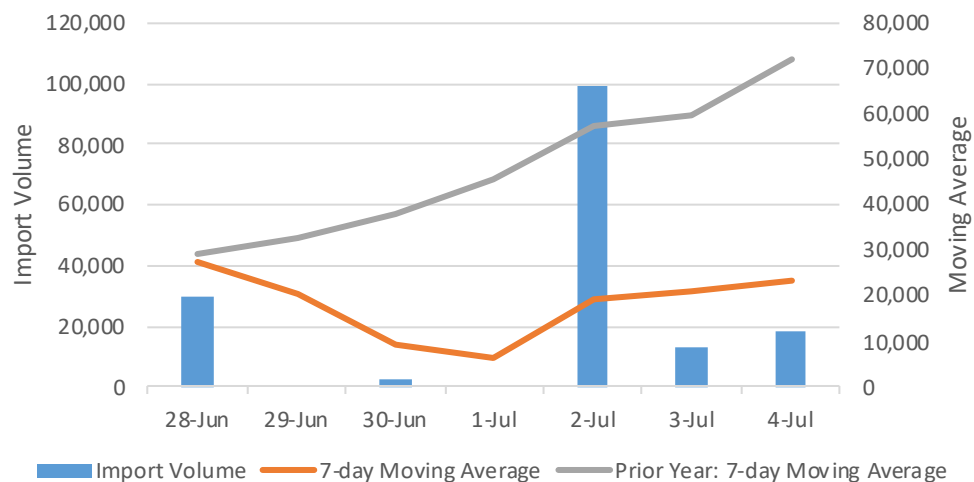


Figure 9. Lake Charles Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

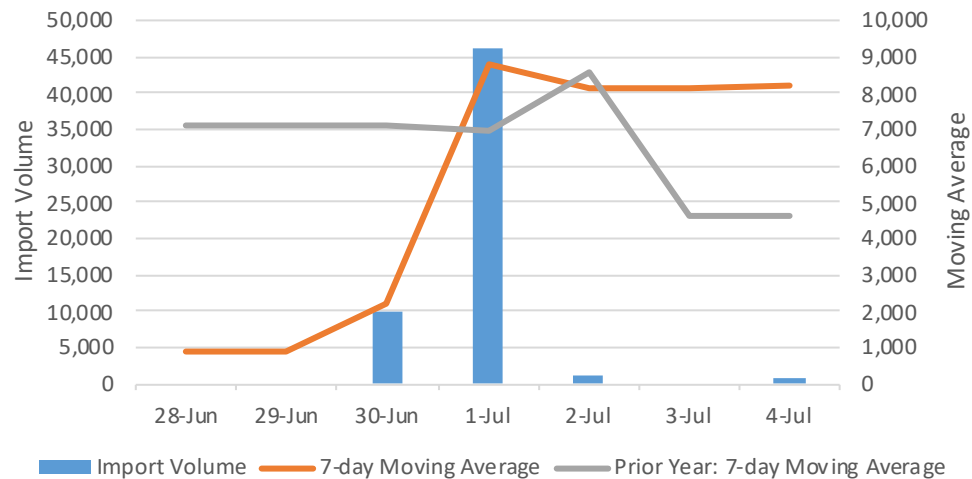


Figure 10. Baton Rouge Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

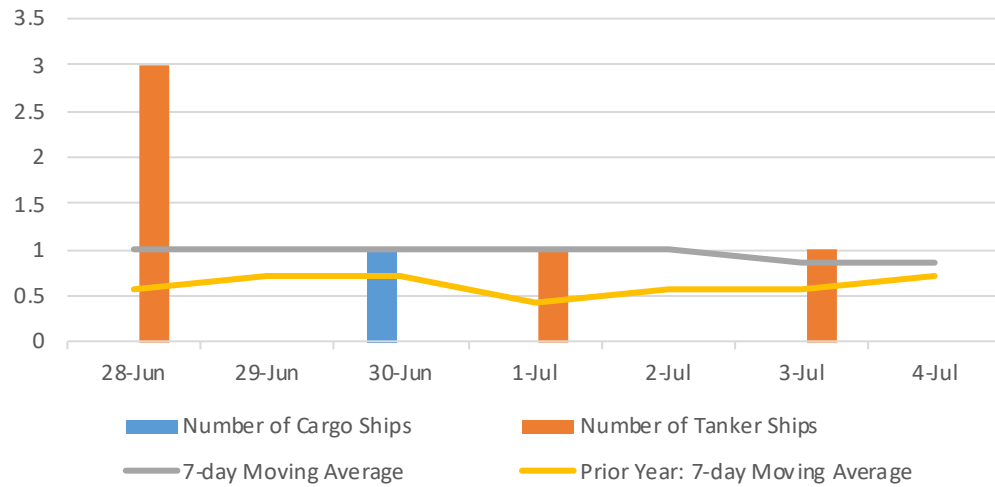


Figure 11. New Orleans Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

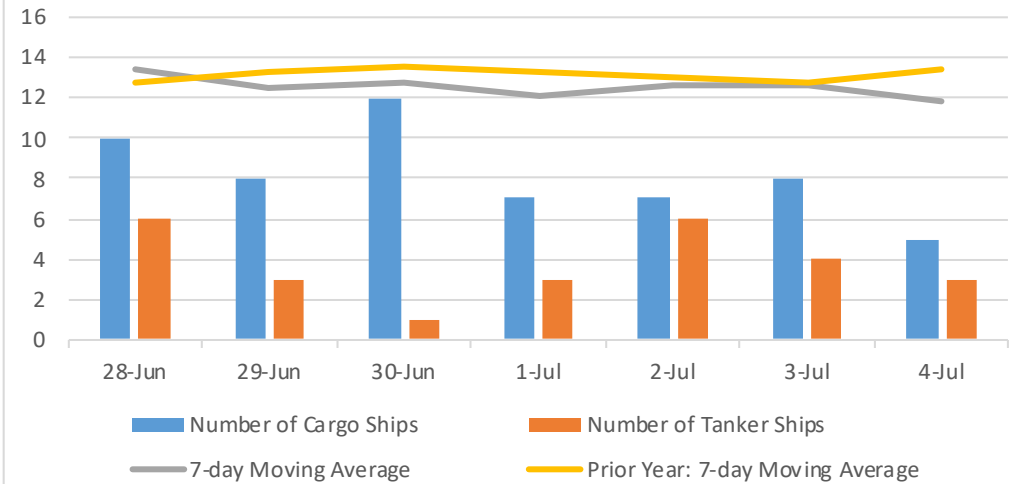


Figure 12. South Louisiana Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

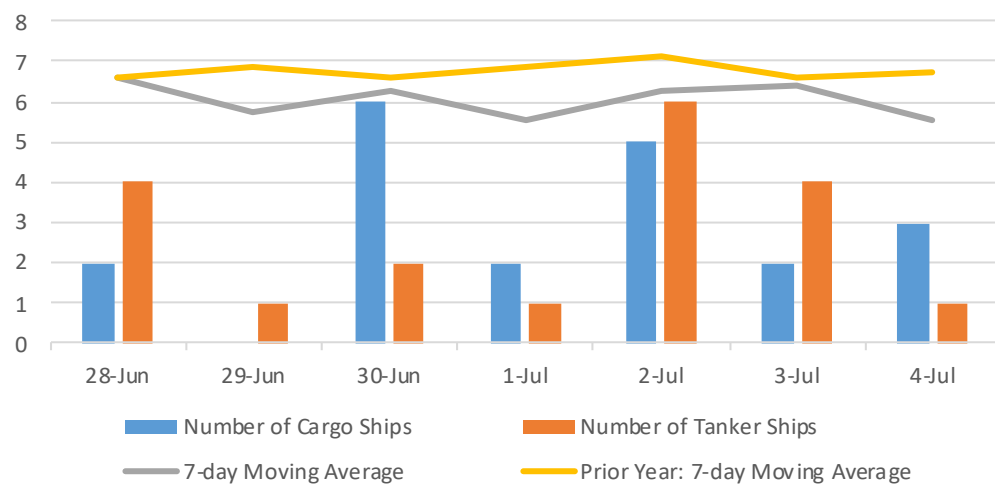
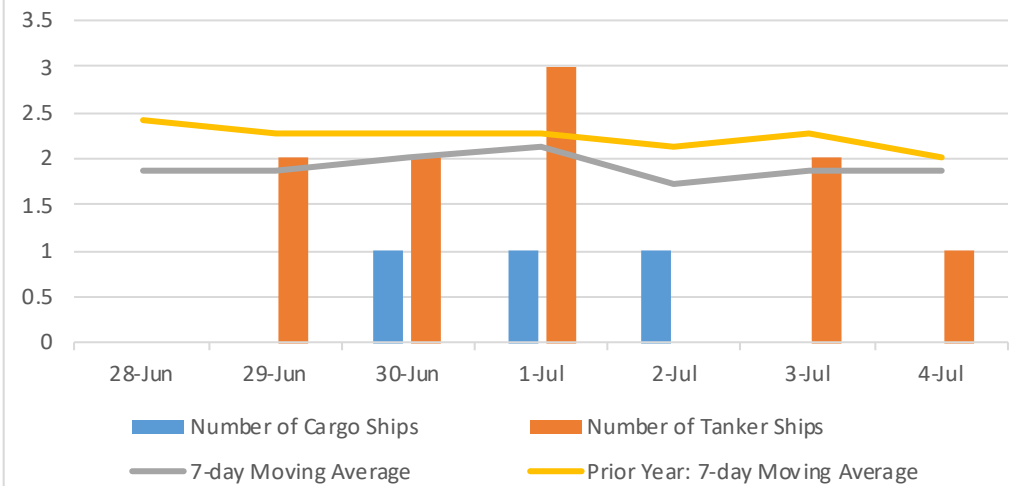


Figure 13. Lake Charles Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel



# 5. OIL & GAS

Oil and Gas rig counts signal future oil and gas production levels. More rigs usually mean companies are ramping up drilling, expecting either higher prices or rising demand. A declining rig count may suggest lower future supply, possibly due to falling prices or reduced demand. Also, high rig counts often reflect strong capital investment in energy infrastructure, signaling confidence in the market while a sharp drop might indicate companies are pulling back spending, which can reflect broader economic uncertainty. Because energy is a key input for nearly all economic activity, changes in rig counts can correlate with GDP growth, industrial production, and transportation activity.

Table 10. Louisiana and U.S. Oil & Gas Weekly Rig Counts					
Location	7/4/25	6/27/25	6/6/25	% Change	
				(WoW)	(MoM)
Louisiana (Total all areas)	34	35	32	-2.86%	6.25%
North - Land	20	20	21	-	-4.76%
South Inland - Water	4	4	2	-	100.00%
South Inland - Land	1	2	1	-50.00%	-
State Offshore	0	0	0	-	-
Louisiana Federal Offshore	9	9	8	-	12.50%
U.S. Total	539	547	559	-1.46%	-3.58%

Source: State of Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources, reported by Baker Hughes.

Table 11. Louisiana Monthly Oil and Gas Production					
Type	Apr-25	Mar-25	Apr-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Crude Oil <sup>1</sup>	2,364	2,425	2,597	-2.52%	-8.97%
Natural Gas <sup>2</sup>	318,306	336,764	301,412	-5.48%	5.60%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Thousand Barrels; <sup>2</sup>Million Cubic Feet  
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

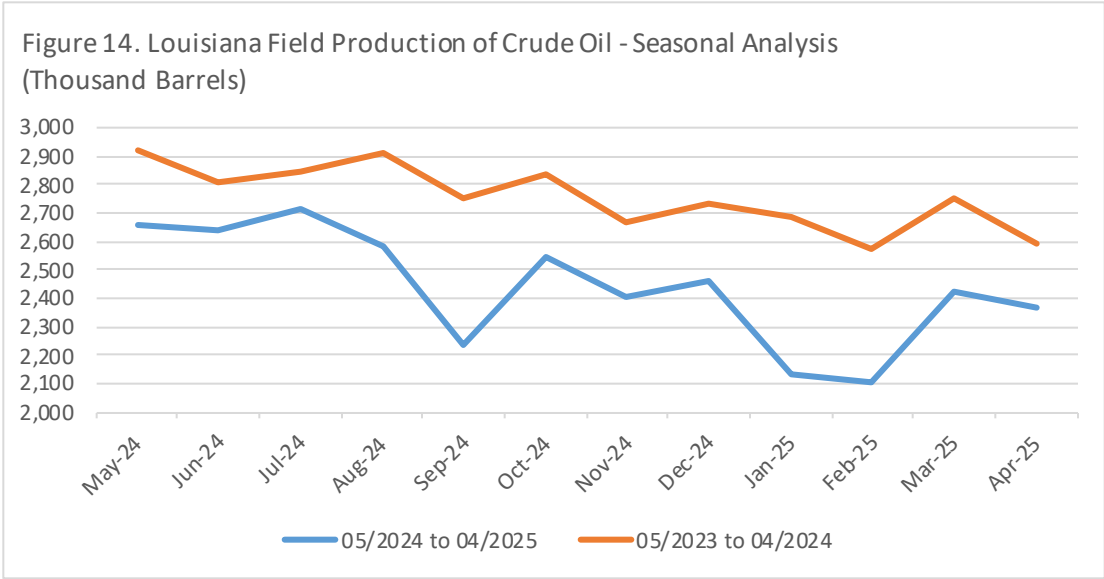
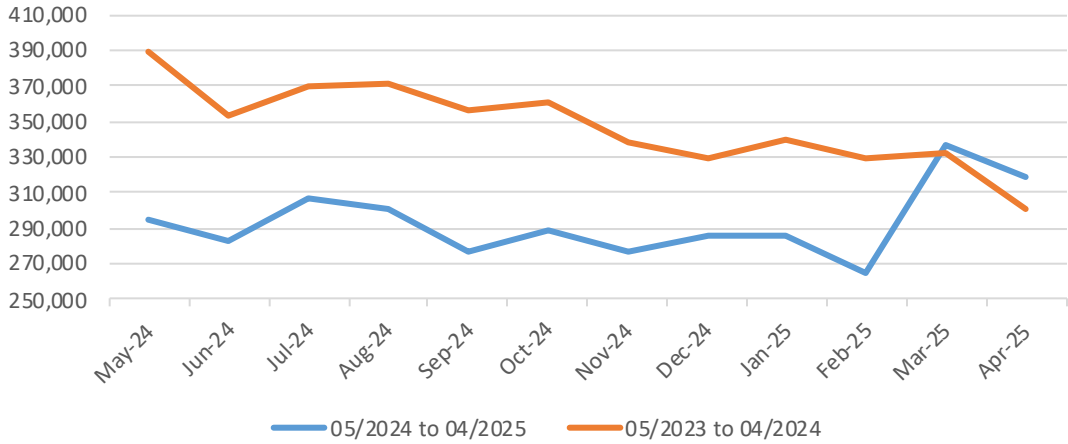


Figure 15. Louisiana Natural Gas Withdrawals - Seasonal Analysis  
(Million Cubic Feet)





## 6. WHOLESALE SALES & INVENTORIES

The Monthly Wholesale Trade report provides national estimates of monthly sales, inventories, and inventories-to-sales ratios by kind of business for wholesale firms located in the United States. Data from this survey provide business leaders and policymakers with an up-to-date picture of the nation's economic condition by providing insight into supply chain activity, inventory management, and demand trends in the U.S. economy, in particular, the wholesale sector.

**Table 12. U.S. Monthly Sales and Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers, Percentage Changes, Including Inventories-to-Sales Ratios<sup>1</sup>**

Index	Sales % Change		Inventories % Change		Inventories-to-Sales		
	(MoM)	(YoY)	(MoM)	(YoY)	May-25	Apr-25	May-24
U.S. Total	-0.3	4.8	-0.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.34
Durable	0.2	7.6	-0.8	0.0	1.67	1.69	1.8
Automotive	3.6	5.2	-1.5	-2.6	1.69	1.78	1.83
Furniture	-1.6	3.6	-2.2	4.5	1.99	2.01	1.98
Lumber	-3.1	1.2	1.0	3.4	1.81	1.74	1.77
Prof. equip.	-0.3	8.1	-1.7	5.1	1.17	1.18	1.2
Comp. equip.	-0.8	14.4	-2.8	14.8	0.87	0.89	0.87
Metals	0.5	0.2	-0.1	-2.3	2.17	2.18	2.22
Electrical	1.2	15.7	-0.1	-3.2	0.95	0.96	1.14
Hardware	-1.5	4.6	1.3	8.1	2.22	2.16	2.14
Machinery	-0.9	5.2	-0.8	-2.0	2.86	2.86	3.07
Misc. Durable	-1.6	6.4	-2.5	1.2	1.54	1.55	1.61
Nondurable	-0.8	2.3	0.5	3.9	0.95	0.93	0.93
Paper	-0.8	0.7	0.3	6.9	1.05	1.04	1.0
Drugs	-0.3	11.0	1.8	5.1	0.96	0.94	1.0
Apparel	1.9	8.1	0.5	-0.7	2.04	2.07	2.23
Groceries	1.0	6.7	0.3	11.0	0.71	0.72	0.68
Farm products	0.8	9.2	-3.8	4.9	1.14	1.2	1.19
Chemicals	2.8	3.4	-1.9	-1.8	1.08	1.13	1.14
Petroleum	-2.8	-13.3	2.5	-8.1	0.33	0.31	0.31
Alcohol	-0.1	-1.5	1.7	5.6	1.71	1.68	1.6
Misc. Nondur.	-6.2	2.9	0.0	3.2	1.82	1.71	1.82

Note: <sup>1</sup>Except manufacturers' sales branches and offices; Data used to calculate percentage changes have been adjusted for seasonality but not for price changes.

# July

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
		<a href="#">Construction Spending</a> [May] <a href="#">ISM Manufacturing</a> [June] <a href="#">JOLTS</a> [June]	<a href="#">Wholesale Trade: Sales &amp; Inventories</a> [May] <a href="#">Metro Area Employment</a> [May]	<a href="#">Employment</a> [June] <a href="#">Trade Balance</a> [May] <a href="#">ISM Services</a> [June]	<a href="#">Independence Day</a> [U.S. Markets Closed]	
6	7	<a href="#">NFIB Small Business</a> [June] <a href="#">Consumer Credit</a> [May]	<a href="#">FOMC Minutes</a> [June]	10	<a href="#">Fed Budget</a> [June]	12
13	14	<a href="#">CPI</a> [June] <a href="#">Real Earnings</a> [June]	<a href="#">PPI</a> [June] <a href="#">Industrial Production</a> [June]	16	<a href="#">Retail Sales</a> [June] <a href="#">Import Price Index</a> [June] <a href="#">Business Inventories</a> [May] <a href="#">NAHB Index</a> [June]	19
20	21	22	<a href="#">Existing Home Sales</a> [June]	23	<a href="#">New Home Sales</a> [June]	26
27	28	<a href="#">S&amp;P/C-S Home Prices</a> [May] <a href="#">JOLTS</a> [June] <a href="#">Consumer Confidence</a> [July]	<a href="#">GDP</a> [Q2 1 <sup>st</sup> ] <a href="#">Pending Home Sales</a> [June]	30	<a href="#">Personal Income</a> [June]	31