

Louisiana Economic Vitals

Friday, July 25, 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 JULY 2025 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[Hood Container Announces \\$118.9 Million Modernization Project at Historic Paper Mill in St. Francisville](#)

July 22th, 2025

[Christening the Creole King: A New Era of Bulk Cargo Innovation Unveiled at the Port of Iberia](#)

July 16th, 2025

[Shell Project BlueCat expansion elevates Port Allen to No. 1](#)

July 15th, 2025

[Louisiana is finally a good place for business. Now it's time to lead.](#)

July 11th, 2025

Direct questions and comments to:

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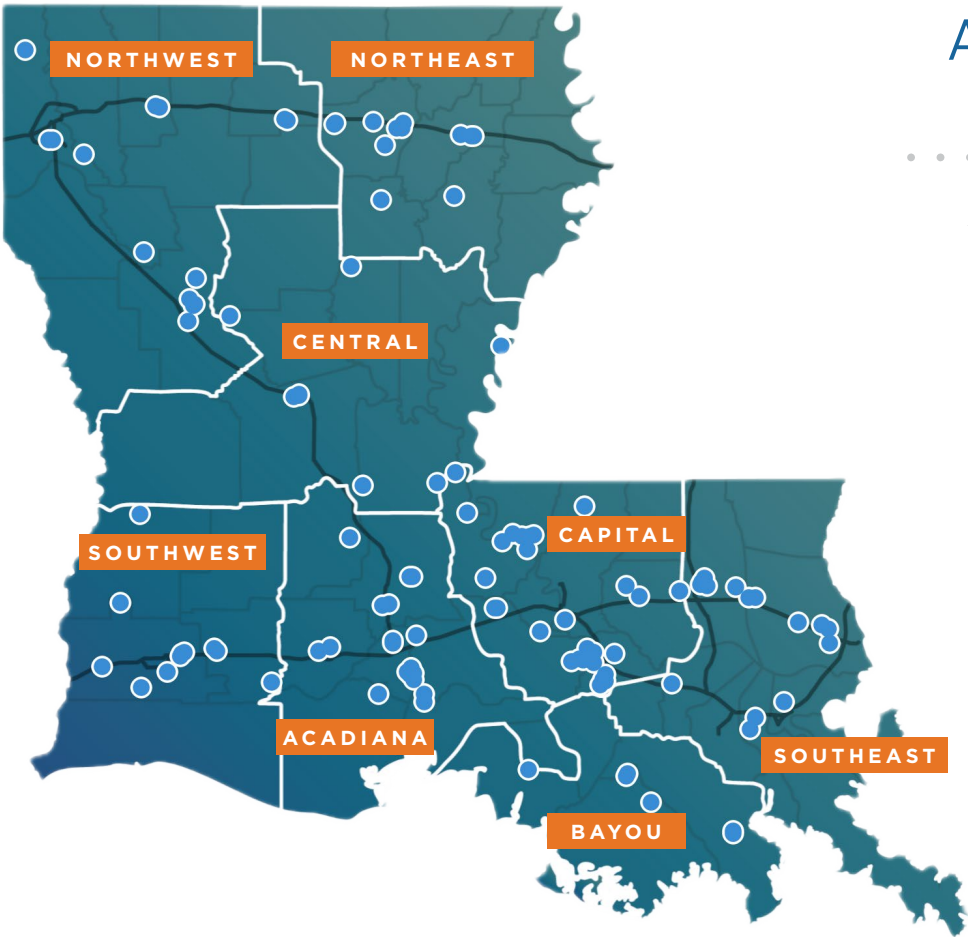
LED PROJECT PIPELINE

Since the start of the current administration, LED has announced 50 projects that will account for over \$63.3 billion USD of investment and almost 6,850 direct new jobs

As of 07/25/2025, LED is involved with and tracking 183 distinct projects, with a combined value of over \$191.9 billion USD and with the potential to create more than 43,275 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 data on state and metropolitan employment, hours, and earnings (current U.S. dollars) figures for June 2025. All figures are for the private sector and are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov)

Table 1. State and Metro Area Private Sector Employment (in Thousands)					
Area	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	48.4	48.5	48.3	-0.2%	0.2%
Baton Rouge	357.9	358.6	352.8	-0.2%	1.4%
Hammond	39	39.4	38.1	-1.0%	2.4%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	75.8	75.5	75.1	0.4%	0.9%
Lafayette	164.2	164	160.7	0.1%	2.2%
Lake Charles	88.7	88.7	87.8	-	1.0%
Monroe	77.7	78	76.9	-0.4%	1.0%
New Orleans-Metairie	422.8	424.2	415.6	-0.3%	1.7%
Shreveport-Bossier City	142	142.3	140.3	-0.2%	1.2%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	88.6	87.9	86	0.8%	3.0%
Louisiana	1679.9	1682.7	1655.2	-0.2%	1.5%
Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted; June 2025 data are preliminary.					

Table 2. State and Metro Area Private Sector Average Weekly Hours					
Area	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	37	36.5	37.3	1.4%	-0.8%
Baton Rouge	36	36.6	37.4	-1.6%	-3.7%
Hammond	32.7	32.7	33	-	-0.9%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	39.6	39.2	41.2	1.0%	-3.9%
Lafayette	38	37.5	39.3	1.3%	-3.3%
Lake Charles	36.2	35.7	35.7	1.4%	1.4%
Monroe	33.5	32.6	36.7	2.8%	-8.7%
New Orleans-Metairie	36	35.7	36.7	0.8%	-1.9%
Shreveport-Bossier City	35.9	34.6	36.5	3.8%	-1.6%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	35.1	32.28	34.25	8.7%	2.5%
Louisiana	36.3	35.9	37.2	1.1%	-2.4%
Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted; June 2025 data are preliminary.					

Table 3. State and Metro Area Private Sector Average Hourly Earnings

Area	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	\$26.11	\$26.06	\$26.67	0.2%	-2.1%
Baton Rouge	\$32.60	\$33.34	\$30.83	-2.2%	5.7%
Hammond	\$22.01	\$21.50	\$19.39	2.4%	13.5%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	\$30.29	\$29.85	\$27.60	1.5%	9.7%
Lafayette	\$28.05	\$28.10	\$26.95	-0.2%	4.1%
Lake Charles	\$31.81	\$31.62	\$30.22	0.6%	5.3%
Monroe	\$29.20	\$29.87	\$29.45	-2.2%	-0.8%
New Orleans-Metairie	\$30.46	\$30.17	\$30.89	1.0%	-1.4%
Shreveport-Bossier City	\$27.77	\$27.34	\$24.97	1.6%	11.2%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	\$32.79	\$32.28	\$34.25	1.6%	-4.3%
Louisiana	\$29.62	\$29.56	\$28.74	0.2%	3.1%

Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted; June 2025 data are preliminary.

Table 4. State and Metro Area Private Sector Average Weekly Earnings

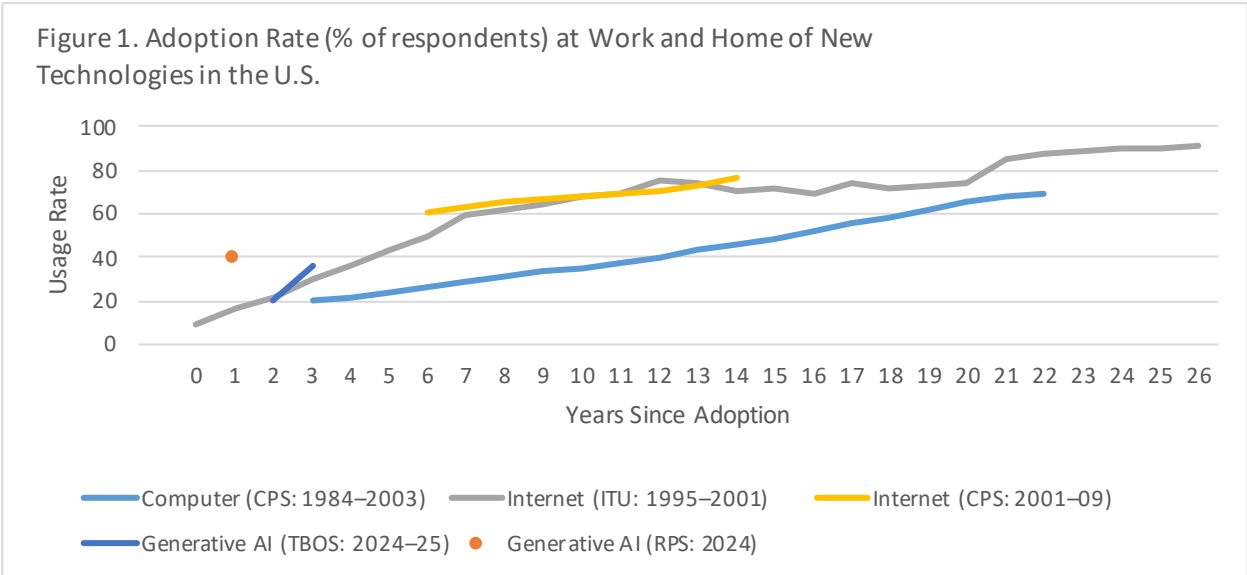
Area	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	\$966.07	\$951.19	\$994.79	1.6%	-2.9%
Baton Rouge	\$1,173.60	\$1,220.24	\$1,153.04	-3.8%	1.8%
Hammond	\$719.73	\$703.05	\$639.87	2.4%	12.5%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	\$1,199.48	\$1,170.12	\$1,137.12	2.5%	5.5%
Lafayette	\$1,065.90	\$1,053.75	\$1,059.14	1.2%	0.6%
Lake Charles	\$1,151.52	\$1,128.83	\$1,078.85	2.0%	6.7%
Monroe	\$978.20	\$973.76	\$1,080.82	0.5%	-9.5%
New Orleans-Metairie	\$1,096.56	\$1,077.07	\$1,133.66	1.8%	-3.3%
Shreveport-Bossier City	\$996.94	\$945.96	\$911.41	5.4%	9.4%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	\$1,150.93	\$1,142.71	\$1,226.15	0.7%	-6.1%
Louisiana	\$1,075.21	\$1,061.20	\$1,069.13	1.3%	0.6%

Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted; June 2025 data are preliminary.

2. AI IN THE WORKPLACE

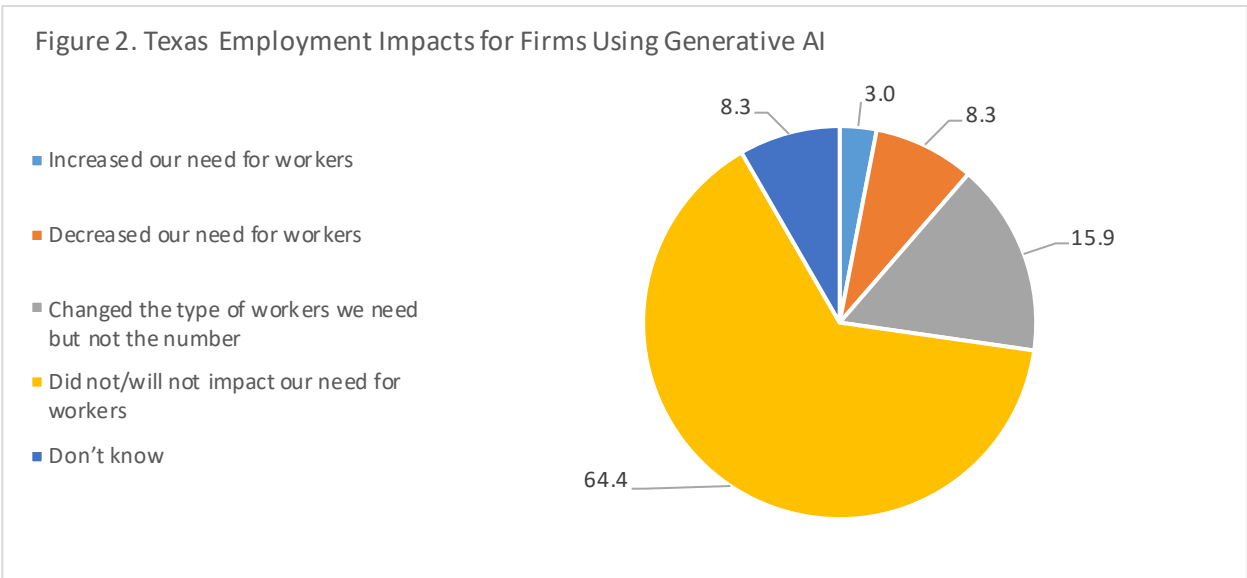
The Federal Reserve Board produced a synopsis in February 2025 of business surveys in the U.S. to gauge the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and generative AI. The following figure shows the percentage of respondents using new technologies at work or home. TBOS responses show percent of firms reporting AI usage. TBOS responses were collected in April 2024 and May 2025. The legend shows collection period for each survey.

Source: Real-Time Population Survey (RPS); Current Population Survey (CPS); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Texas Business Outlook Surveys (TBOS).



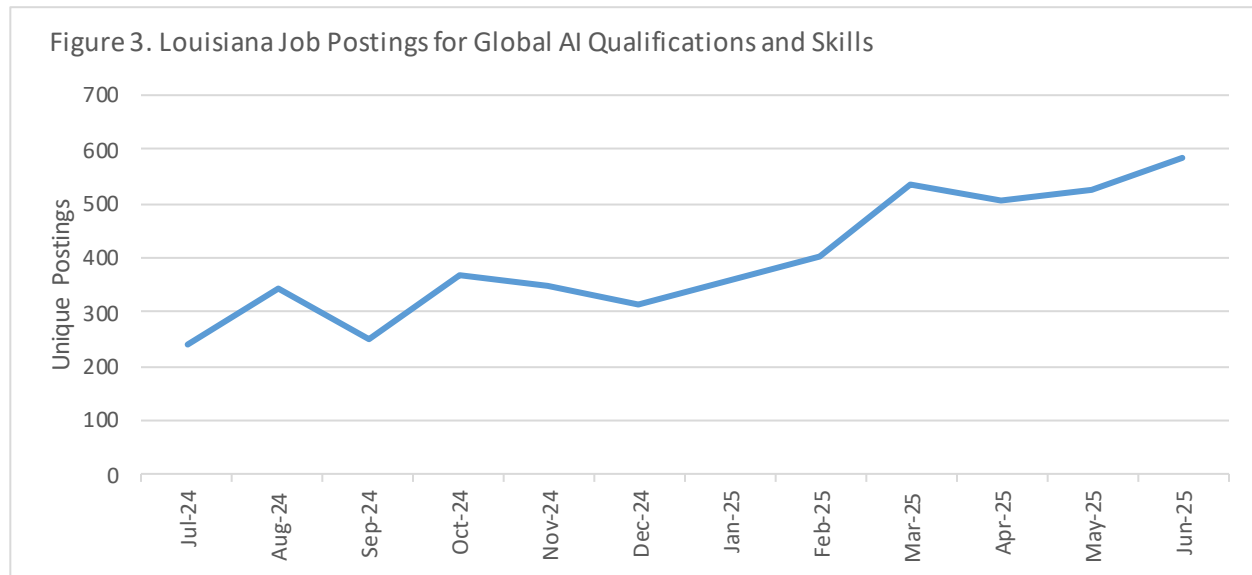
The Dallas Fed also asked Texas firms that reported using generative AI, “On net, how has the use of generative AI affected employment at your firm?” Shown are the percentages of firms selecting each answer choice.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Texas Business Outlook Survey.



The following figure shows the increase in unique job postings in Louisiana for occupations listing AI and generative AI skills as a requirement.

Source: lightcast.io



3. COMMODITIES

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

Source: fred.stlouisfed.org

Table 5. Energy Commodities, Weekly					
Commodity	7/18/25	7/11/25	7/19/24	% Change	
				(WoW)	(YoY)
Brent Crude Oil	\$70.66	\$71.77	\$86.05	-1.5%	-17.9%
WTI Crude Oil	\$68.07	\$69.15	\$82.98	-1.6%	-18.0%
Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.39	\$3.17	\$2.02	6.9%	67.8%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$3.36	0.0%	-10.1%

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	\$12.30	\$11.62	\$10.11	5.9%	21.7%
Asia Liquefied Natural Gas	\$12.96	\$11.68	\$10.85	11.0%	19.4%
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

Table 7. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of July 24, 2025							
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar (\$)	Unit of Measurement	% Change			
				Daily	Weekly	Monthly	(YoY)
Soybeans	\$1,004.98	\$10.04	\$/Bu	0.00%	-1.62%	-1.98%	-9.68%
Wheat	\$540.54	\$5.41	\$/Bu	-0.04%	1.22%	2.23%	0.42%
Lumber	\$663.55	\$6.64	\$/MBF	-0.37%	1.23%	9.03%	34.15%
Palm Oil	\$4,330.00	\$43.30	\$/MT	0.32%	2.80%	9.26%	10.52%
Sugar (No. 11)	\$16.57	\$0.17	\$/Lb	1.91%	-0.97%	3.74%	-11.10%
Coffee	\$305.22	\$3.05	\$/Lb	1.74%	-0.67%	-0.32%	31.25%
Corn	\$401.71	\$4.02	\$/Bu	0.80%	-0.13%	-2.14%	-4.59%
Rice	\$12.63	\$0.13	\$/CWT	0.84%	0.85%	-4.78%	-15.64%
Orange Juice	\$340.92	\$3.41	\$/Lb	1.32%	9.03%	43.97%	-18.85%

4. RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

The following tables provide data on new housing construction, which enables insights into a region's economic conditions, the mobility of residents, and investor sentiment.

Table 8. U.S. Monthly New Residential Construction Totals, by Status (Units in Thousands)

Status	6/17/2025 ¹	5/17/2025 ²	6/17/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Authorized	285	285	276	0.1%	3.4%
Starts	123	116	124	6.3%	-0.3%
Under Construction	1,372	1,372	1,586	0.0%	-13.5%
Completions	115	131	152	-12.2%	-24.6%

Note: ¹Preliminary; ²Revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: [census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Table 9. U.S. Monthly New Residential Sales, by Status (Units in Thousands)

Status	6/1/2025 ¹	5/1/2025 ²	6/1/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Sold	54	56	58	-3.6%	-6.9%
For Sale	511	501	468	2.0%	9.2%

Note: ¹Preliminary; ²Revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: [census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Table 10. U.S. Existing Single-Family Home Sales

Category	6/23/2025 ¹	5/24/2025 ²	6/23/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Inventory	1,530	1,540	1,320	-0.65%	15.91%
U.S. Sales	391	390	376	0.26%	3.99%
Months Supply	4.7	4.6	4	2.17%	17.50%
Sales Price ³	\$435,300	\$423,700	\$426,900	2.74%	1.97%

Note: ¹Preliminary; ²Revised; ³Median Price; Data are not seasonally adjusted; Inventory and U.S. Sales are in thousand units; Sales Price is in thousand dollars.

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

The NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) is based on a monthly survey of single-family builders and is designed to gauge and track the pulse of the single-family housing market. A higher reading (>50) is an indication that the majority of builders feel confident about the current and near-term outlook for housing.

Source: <https://www.nahb.org/news-and-economics/housing-economics/indices/housing-market-index>

Table 8. U.S. Monthly New Residential Construction Totals, by Status (Units in Thousands)

Index	Jul-25	Jun-25	July-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Housing Market Index	33	32	41	3.1%	-19.5%
Housing Market Index Components:					
Single Family Sales: Present	36	35	46	2.9%	-21.7%
Single Family Sales: Next 6 Months	43	40	48	7.5%	-10.4%
Traffic of Prospective Buyers	20	21	27	-4.8%	-25.9%

Note: Data are seasonally adjusted; July 2025 data are preliminary; June 2025 data are revised.

5. 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

Figure 4. Baton Rouge Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

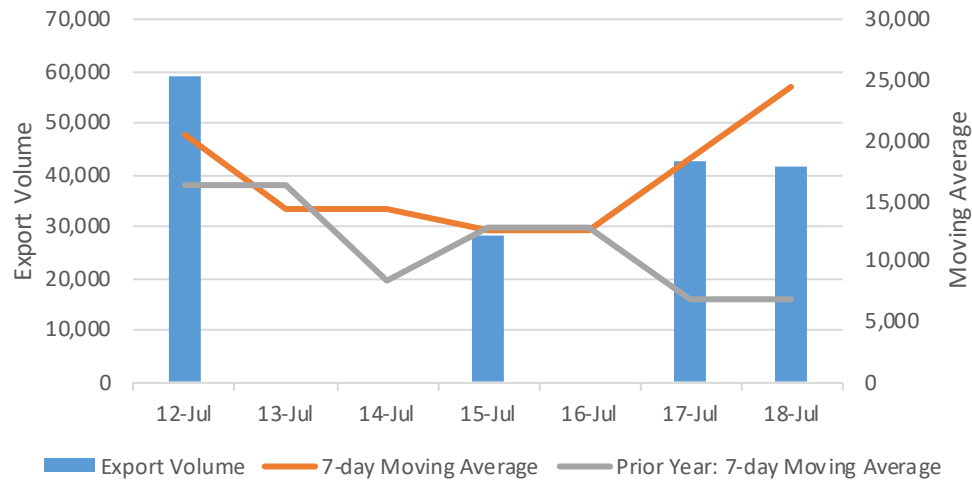


Figure 5. New Orleans Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

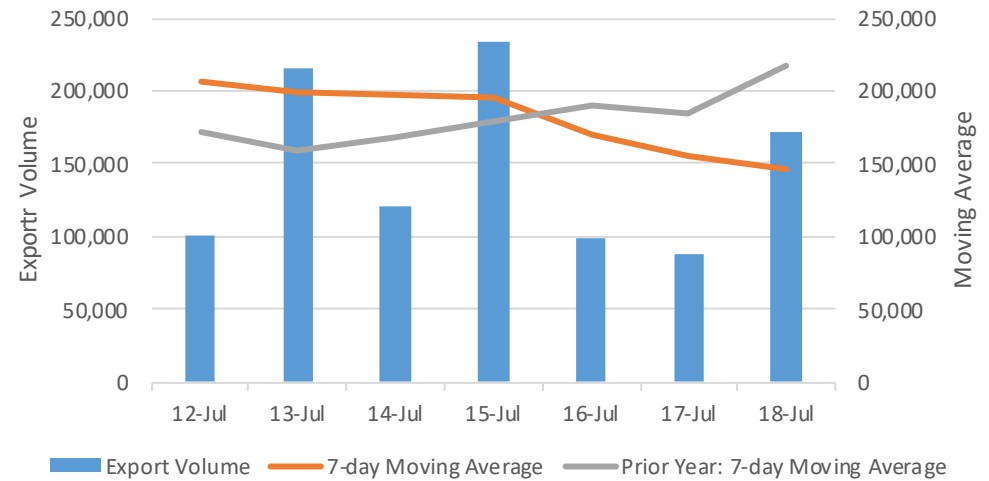


Figure 6. South Louisiana Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

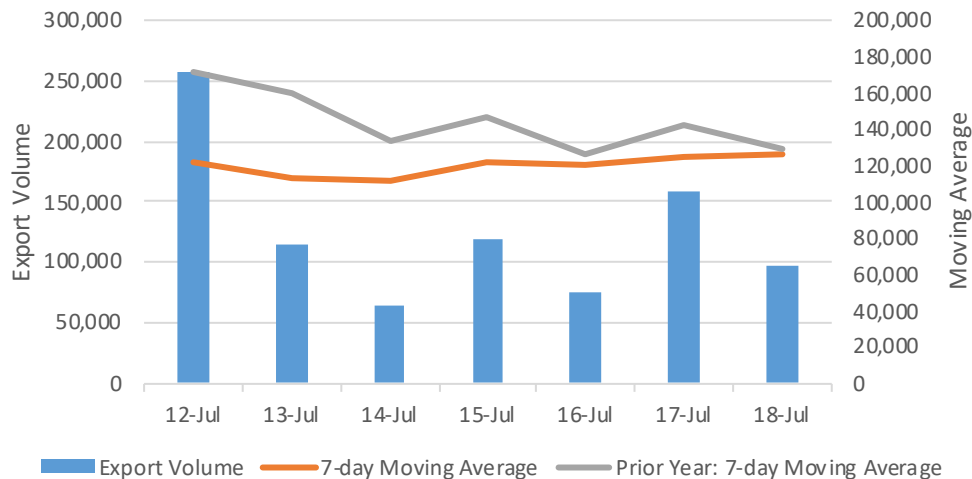


Figure 7. Lake Charles Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

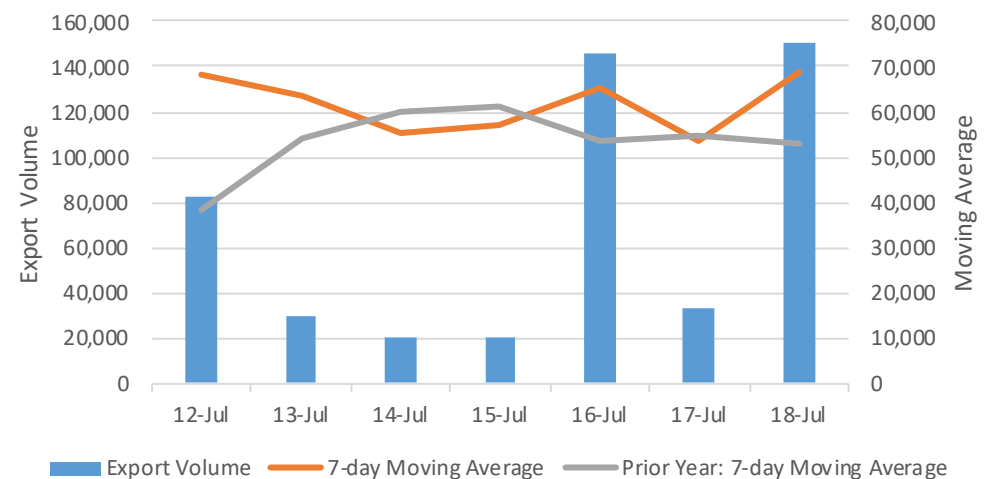


Figure 8. Baton Rouge Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

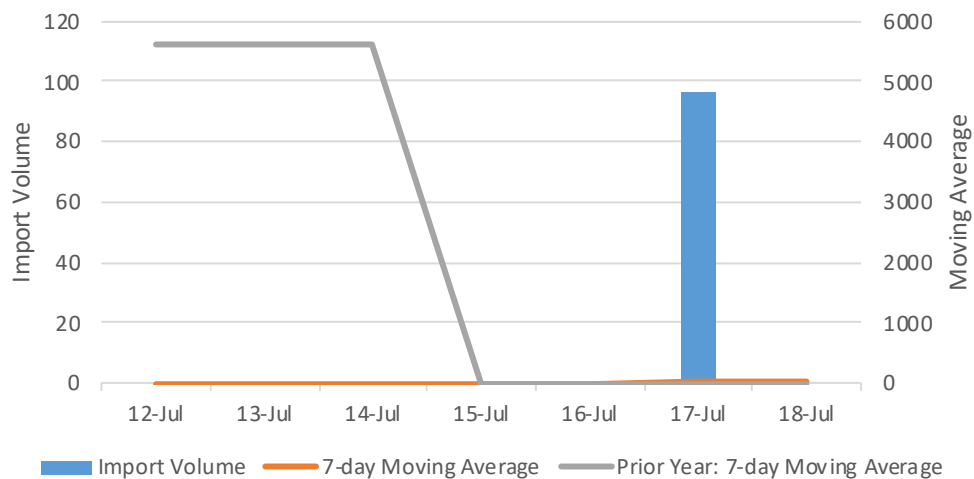


Figure 9. New Orleans Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

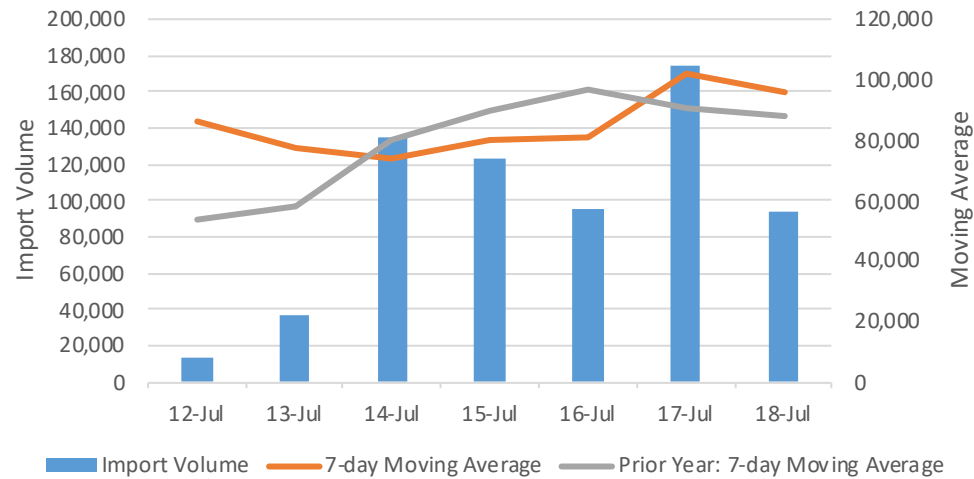


Figure 10. South Louisiana Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

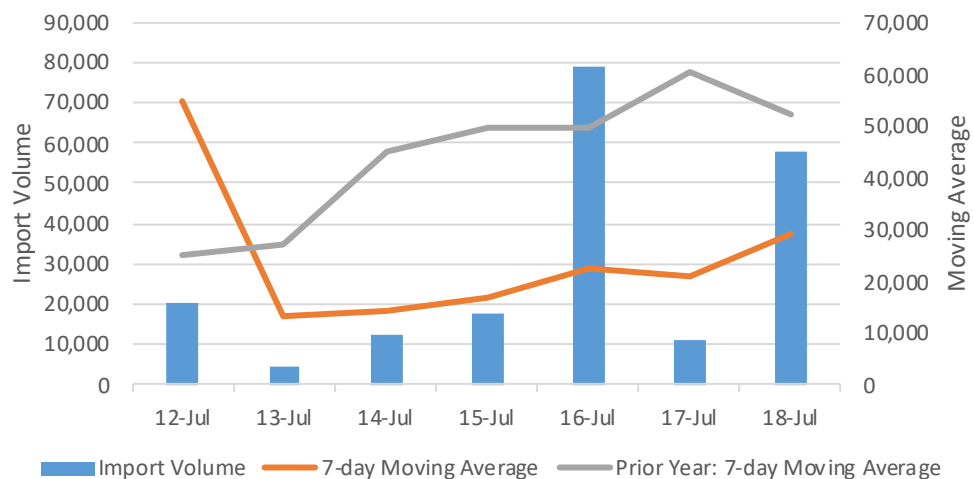


Figure 11. Lake Charles Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

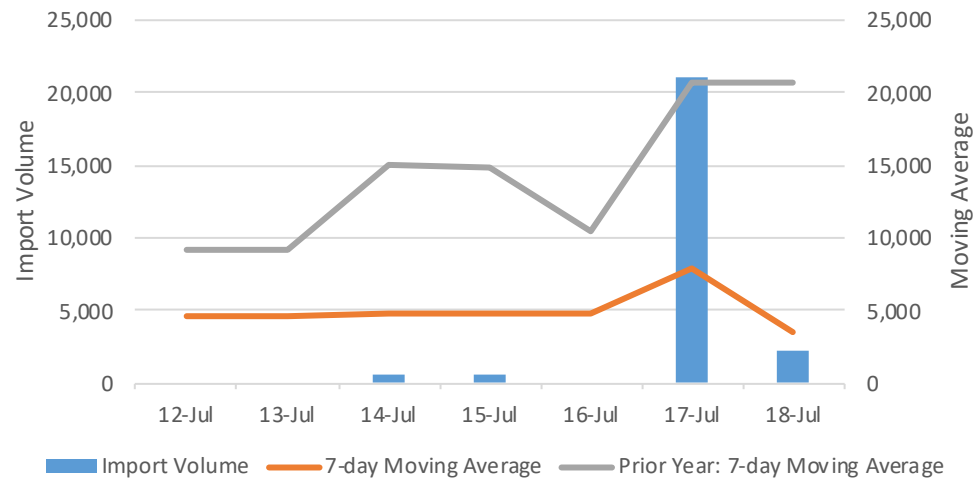


Figure 12. Baton Rouge Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

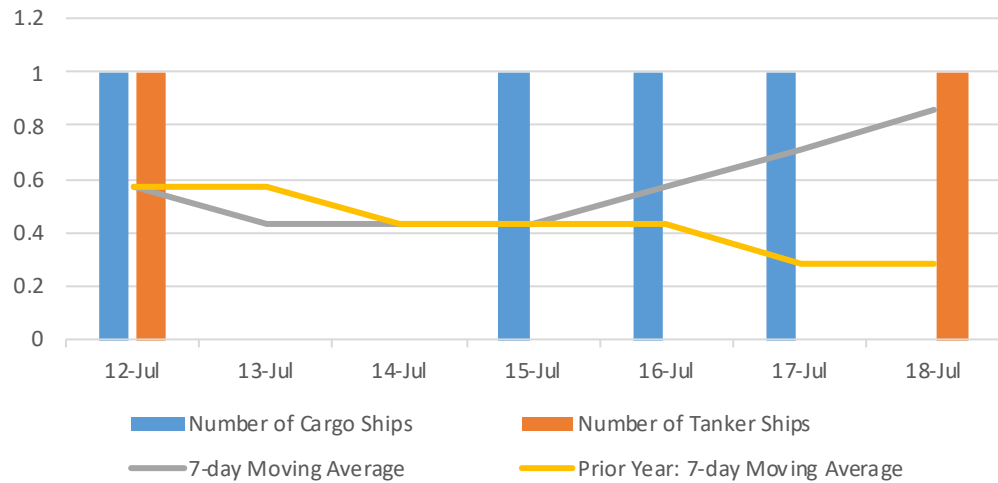


Figure 13. New Orleans Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

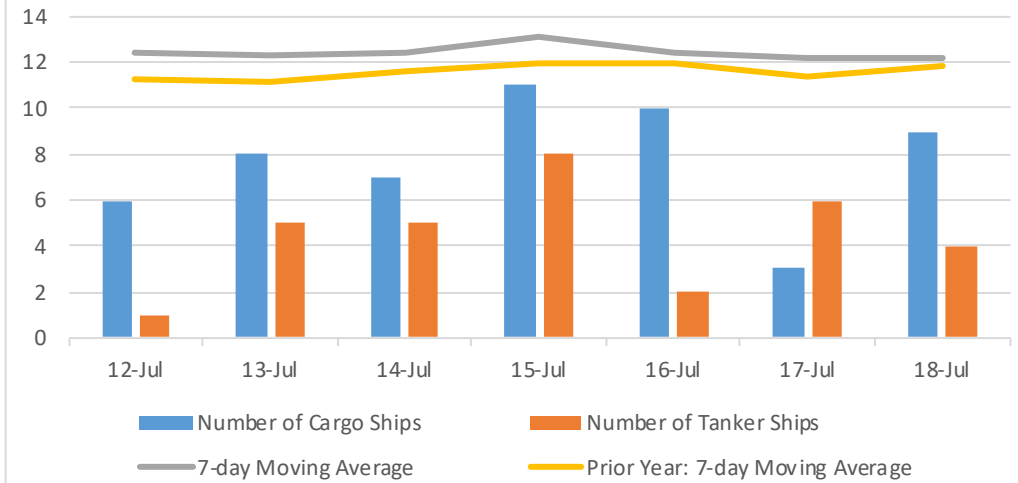


Figure 14. South Louisiana Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

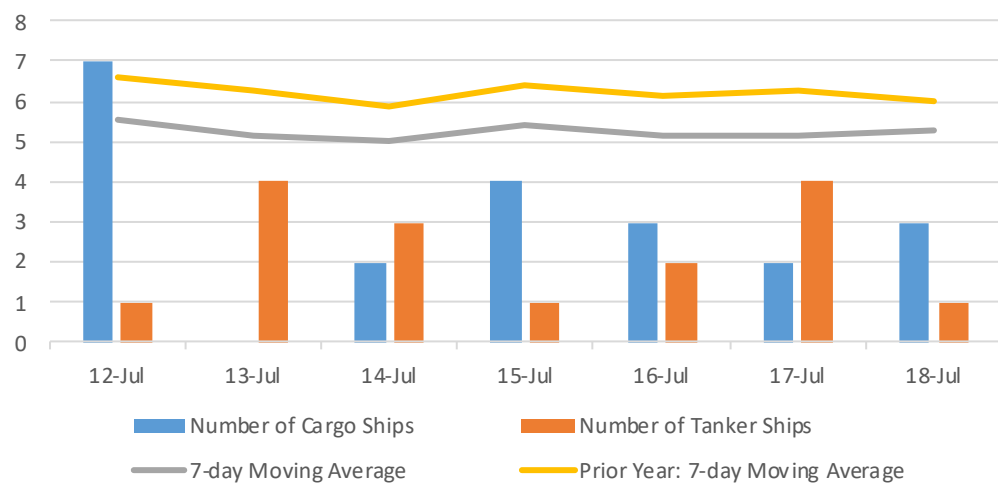
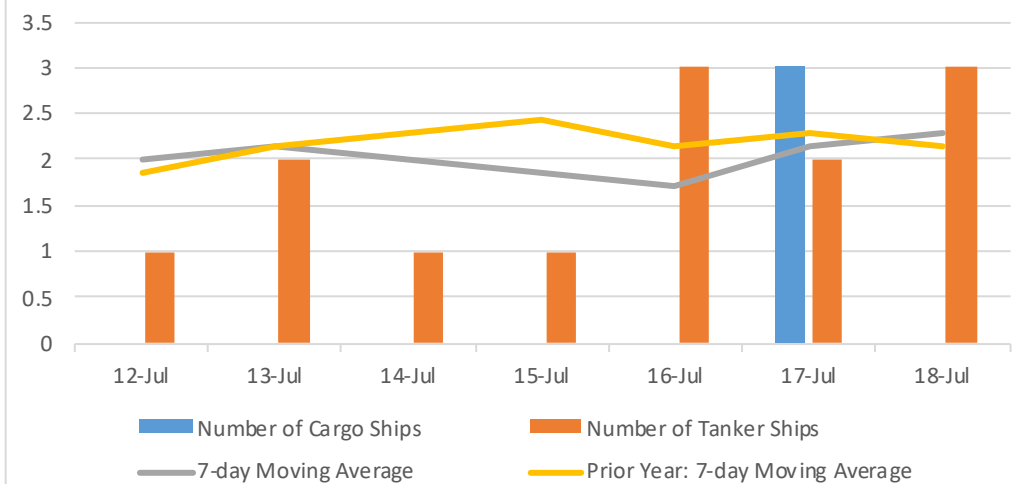


Figure 15. Lake Charles Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel



6. U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES

Import and export price indices tell us about the prices of goods and services the U.S. trades with the rest of the world. They provide information about trade competitiveness, the terms of trade, inflationary pressures, and global economic conditions.

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov)

Table 12. U.S. Import Price Indexes for Selected Categories, 12-Month % Change						
Date	All Imports	Foods, feeds, and beverages	Industrial supplies & materials	Capital goods	Automotive vehicles, parts and engines	Consumer goods, excluding automobiles
Jun-24	1.6%	6.2%	3.0%	0.0%	2.5%	0.5%
Jul-24	1.7%	6.1%	3.4%	0.1%	2.4%	0.7%
Aug-24	0.8%	5.3%	-0.7%	0.3%	2.6%	0.6%
Sep-24	-0.1%	5.9%	-4.6%	0.5%	2.7%	0.8%
Oct-24	0.7%	5.7%	-2.3%	0.9%	2.5%	1.2%
Nov-24	1.4%	6.3%	0.3%	0.6%	2.4%	1.2%
Dec-24	2.2%	9.7%	3.3%	0.3%	2.4%	1.2%
Jan-25	1.6%	8.4%	4.2%	-0.1%	1.5%	-0.4%
Feb-25	1.6%	8.2%	5.5%	-0.4%	1.3%	-0.9%
Mar-25	0.8%	6.2%	1.9%	0.0%	1.2%	-1.0%
Apr-25	0.1%	5.7%	-2.0%	0.7%	1.0%	-0.8%
May-25	-0.2%	6.5%	-3.6%	1.1%	1.1%	-1.2%
Jun-25	-0.2%	4.5%	-3.2%	1.0%	0.9%	-0.6%
Note: May 2025 revised; June 2025 preliminary.						

Table 13. U.S. Export Price Indexes for Selected Categories

Date	All Imports	Foods, feeds, and beverages	Industrial supplies & materials	Capital goods	Automotive vehicles, parts and engines	Consumer goods, excluding automotives
Jun-24	1.0%	-4.1%	1.8%	1.8%	4.2%	-1.8%
Jul-24	1.2%	-6.2%	2.9%	1.9%	4.3%	-1.8%
Aug-24	-0.7%	-5.7%	-2.2%	1.6%	4.0%	-1.4%
Sep-24	-1.8%	-3.4%	-5.5%	1.6%	3.0%	-0.8%
Oct-24	0.1%	-0.3%	-1.8%	2.1%	3.3%	-0.6%
Nov-24	0.9%	-0.4%	0.1%	2.2%	3.0%	-0.4%
Dec-24	2.0%	0.6%	3.1%	2.1%	2.8%	-0.8%
Jan-25	2.8%	2.0%	4.6%	1.9%	2.4%	0.6%
Feb-25	2.6%	1.9%	4.1%	1.5%	2.4%	1.0%
Mar-25	2.6%	3.0%	3.7%	1.8%	2.6%	0.7%
Apr-25	1.9%	3.7%	1.9%	1.6%	2.7%	1.3%
May-25	1.9%	3.0%	1.7%	2.1%	2.8%	1.3%
Jun-25	2.8%	2.8%	3.6%	1.9%	2.9%	2.3%

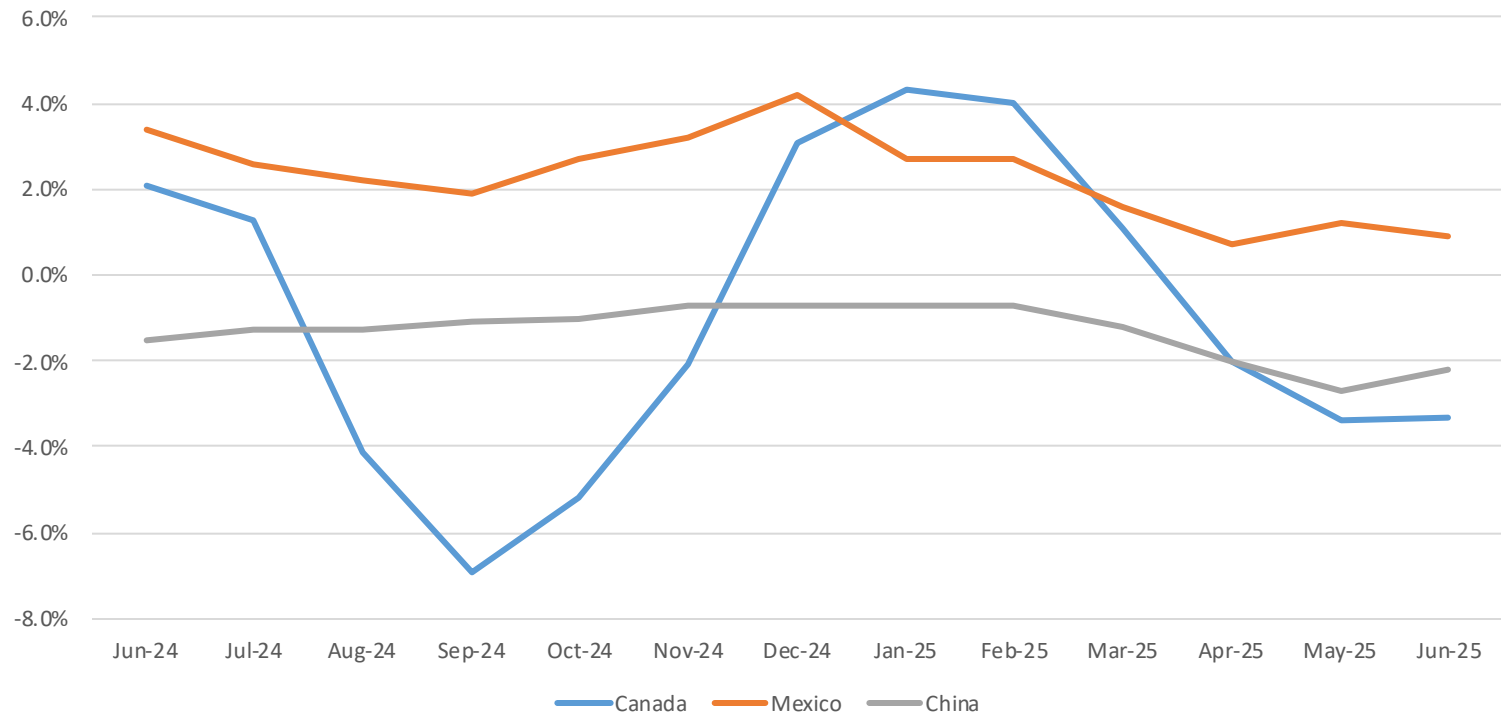
Note: May 2025 revised; June 2025 preliminary.

Table 14. U.S. Import Price Indexes by Locality of Origin, 12-Month % Change

Date	Canada	European Union	France	Germany	United Kingdom	Latin America	Mexico	Pacific Rim	China	Japan
Jun-24	2.1%	2.2%	4.3%	-0.1%	3.2%	3.4%	3.4%	-0.8%	-1.5%	0.2%
Jul-24	1.3%	1.6%	4.4%	0.2%	2.2%	3.1%	2.6%	-0.7%	-1.3%	-0.2%
Aug-24	-4.1%	1.5%	3.9%	0.6%	2.1%	2.9%	2.2%	-0.6%	-1.3%	-0.1%
Sep-24	-6.9%	1.9%	4.6%	1.1%	0.4%	1.6%	1.9%	-0.4%	-1.1%	-0.1%
Oct-24	-5.2%	2.3%	5.6%	2.1%	1.0%	2.5%	2.7%	0.1%	-1.0%	0.1%
Nov-24	-2.1%	2.4%	5.8%	1.5%	1.4%	2.7%	3.2%	0.4%	-0.7%	-0.2%
Dec-24	3.1%	1.9%	4.9%	0.6%	1.7%	3.3%	4.2%	0.5%	-0.7%	-0.3%
Jan-25	4.3%	-0.2%	-0.6%	1.5%	0.5%	3.0%	2.7%	0.5%	-0.7%	-0.8%
Feb-25	4.0%	-0.1%	0.3%	1.9%	1.6%	2.9%	2.7%	0.7%	-0.7%	0.1%
Mar-25	1.1%	-0.4%	2.2%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%	0.6%	-1.2%	1.0%
Apr-25	-2.0%	-0.6%	0.9%	1.4%	1.2%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	-2.0%	1.1%
May-25	-3.4%	-0.3%	-0.6%	2.4%	-0.2%	0.9%	1.2%	-0.2%	-2.7%	0.9%
Jun-25	-3.3%	0.2%	1.1%	2.2%	-0.5%	0.6%	0.9%	-0.2%	-2.2%	1.5%

Note: April and May 2025 revised; June 2025 preliminary.

Figure 16. U.S. Import Price Indexes by Locality of Origin, Selected Countries, 12-Month % Change



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
		<div><div><div>Construction Spending</div><div>[May]</div></div><div><div>ISM Manufacturing</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>JOLTS</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>1</div>	<div><div><div>Wholesale Trade: Sales & Inventories</div><div>[May]</div></div><div><div>Metro Area Employment</div><div>[May]</div></div></div> <div>2</div>	<div><div><div>Employment</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Trade Balance</div><div>[May]</div></div><div><div>ISM Services</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>3</div>	<div><div><div>Independence Day</div><div>[U.S. Markets Closed]</div></div></div> <div>4</div>	<div>5</div>
<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>	<div><div><div>NFIB Small Business</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Consumer Credit</div><div>[May]</div></div></div> <div>8</div>	<div><div><div>FOMC Minutes</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>9</div>	<div><div><div>Fed Budget</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>10</div>	<div><div><div>Fed Budget</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>11</div>	<div>12</div>
<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div><div><div>CPI</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Real Earnings</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>15</div>	<div><div><div>PPI</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Industrial Production</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>16</div>	<div><div><div>Retail Sales</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Import Price Index</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Business Inventories</div><div>[May]</div></div><div><div>NAHB Index</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>17</div>	<div><div><div>Housing Starts</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>State Employment</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>U. of Michigan Sentiment</div><div>[July]</div></div></div> <div>18</div>	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div>	<div><div><div>Existing Home Sales</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>23</div>	<div><div><div>New Home Sales</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>24</div>	<div><div><div>Durable Goods</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>25</div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div><div><div>S&P/C-S Home Prices</div><div>[May]</div></div><div><div>JOLTS</div><div>[June]</div></div><div><div>Consumer Confidence</div><div>[July]</div></div></div> <div>29</div>	<div><div><div>GDP</div><div>[Q2 1st]</div></div><div><div>Pending Home Sales</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>30</div>	<div><div><div>Personal Income</div><div>[June]</div></div></div> <div>31</div>		