

# Louisiana Economic Vitals

## Friday, August 1, 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 22<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Direct questions and comments to:

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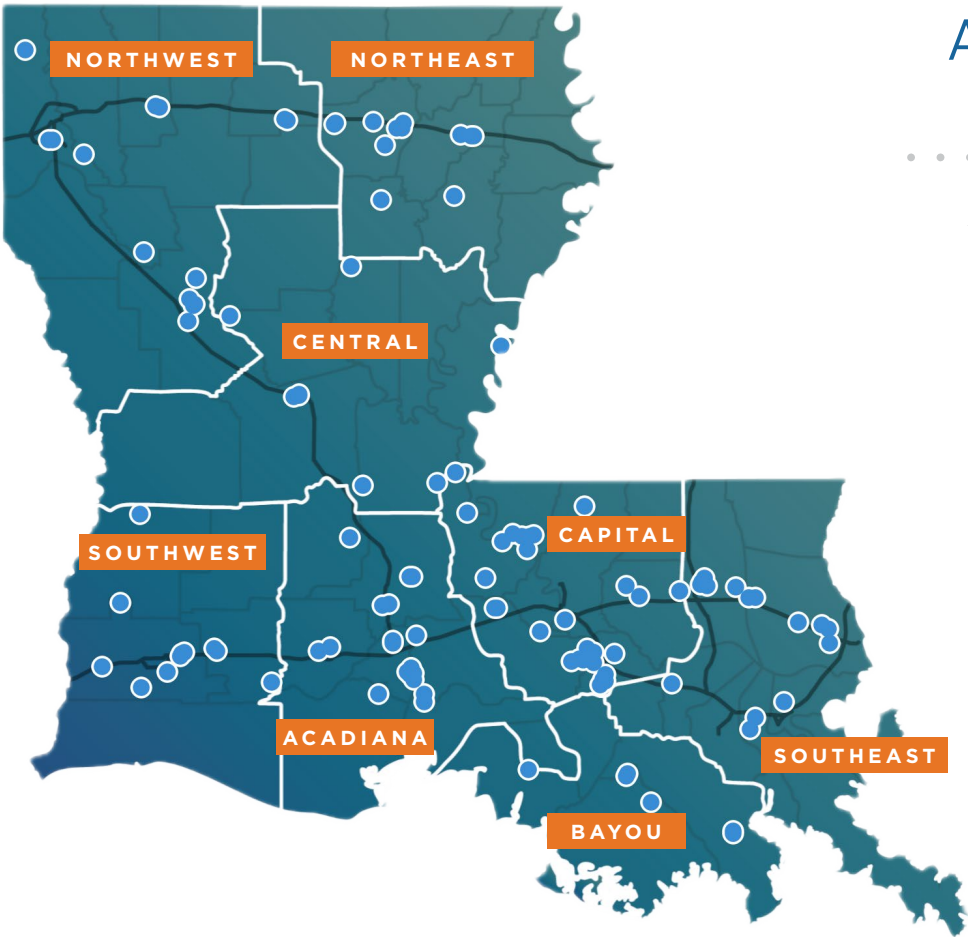
# LED PROJECT PIPELINE

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 07/31/2025, LED is involved with and tracking 184 distinct projects, with a combined value of over \$191.3 billion USD and with the potential to create more than 43,800 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	12
Northwest	15
Southeast	18
Southwest	11

TOTAL 121

# 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 in the state, including a comparison with the state's unemployment rate. Also included is a table with data on ADP's Report on U.S. employment for July 2025. All figures are for the private sector and are not seasonally adjusted.

**Table 1. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Labor Force, by Month**

CBSA	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	64,741	63,795	65,237	1.5%	-0.8%
Baton Rouge	431,112	428,197	428,880	0.7%	0.5%
Hammond	61,801	61,091	60,887	1.2%	1.5%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	88,727	87,537	88,841	1.4%	-0.1%
Lafayette	200,569	198,722	199,480	0.9%	0.5%
Lake Charles	99,633	98,049	99,434	1.6%	0.2%
Monroe	96,903	96,159	96,737	0.8%	0.2%
New Orleans-Metairie	472,462	468,028	469,621	0.9%	0.6%
Shreveport-Bossier City	169,792	167,466	169,553	1.4%	0.1%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	131,896	130,407	130,363	1.1%	1.2%

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov); Data are provisional, subject to revision on 4/18/2025. June 2025 data are preliminary.

**Table 2. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Employment, by Month**

CBSA	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	61,721	61,014	62,259	0.2%	0.4%
Baton Rouge	410,056	409,438	408,785	1.1%	-3.2%
Hammond	58,131	57,873	57,461	1.0%	5.7%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	84,748	83,829	84,992	0.8%	-0.8%
Lafayette	191,983	190,678	191,073	0.8%	6.0%
Lake Charles	94,455	93,275	94,477	1.2%	-9.5%
Monroe	91,532	91,232	91,498	-0.1%	3.5%
New Orleans-Metairie	448,164	446,311	446,461	1.2%	0.8%
Shreveport-Bossier City	161,363	159,669	161,136	1.1%	-0.8%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	125,922	124,867	124,662	1.1%	8.6%

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov); Data are provisional, subject to revision on 4/18/2025. June 2025 data are preliminary.

**Table 3. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Unemployment Rate with State Comparison, by Month**

CBSA	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	4.7	4.4	4.6	0.3	0.1
Baton Rouge	4.9	4.4	4.7	0.5	0.2
Hammond	5.9	5.3	5.6	0.6	0.3
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	4.5	4.2	4.3	0.3	0.2
Lafayette	4.3	4.0	4.2	0.3	0.1
Lake Charles	5.2	4.1	5.0	1.1	0.2
Monroe	5.5	5.1	5.4	0.4	0.1
New Orleans-Metairie	5.1	4.6	4.9	0.5	0.2
Shreveport-Bossier City	5	4.7	5.0	0.3	0
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	4.5	4.2	4.4	0.3	0.1
Louisiana	5.1	4.6	4.9	0.5	0.2

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov); Data are provisional, subject to revision on 4/18/2025. June 2025 data are preliminary.

**Table 4. ADP® Research U.S. Private Employment (in Thousands)**

Industry	7/1/25	6/1/2025 <sup>1</sup>	7/1/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Total Private	134,561	134,457	132,999	0.1%	1.2%
Construction	8,357	8,342	8,148	0.2%	2.6%
Education and health services	25,655	25,693	25,531	-0.1%	0.5%
Financial activities	8,958	8,930	8,769	0.3%	2.2%
Information	2,965	2,956	2,943	0.3%	0.7%
Leisure and hospitality	17,621	17,575	17,043	0.3%	3.4%
Manufacturing	12,817	12,810	12,796	0.1%	0.2%
Natural resources and mining	1,837	1,828	1,753	0.5%	4.8%
Other services	4,836	4,834	4,708	0.04%	2.7%
Professional and business services	22,661	22,652	22,566	0.04%	0.4%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,853	28,835	28,743	0.1%	0.4%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Revised

Source: <https://adpemploymentreport.com/>

The following tables provide data on job openings, hires, and separations. The data serve as demand-side indicators of labor shortages at the national and state level. The availability of unfilled jobs—the job openings rate—is an important measure of the tightness of job markets, parallel to existing measures of unemployment. Data are seasonally adjusted.

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

Table 5. U.S. Job Openings, Hires, and Labor Turnover, Total Nonfarm (in Thousands) by Month					
Category	6/1/25	5/1/2025 <sup>1</sup>	6/1/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Job Openings	7,437	7,712	7,412	-3.6%	0.3%
Hires	5,204	5,465	5,088	-4.8%	2.3%
Quits	3,142	3,270	3,284	-3.9%	-4.3%
Layoffs and Discharges	1,604	1,611	1,467	-0.4%	9.3%
Note: <sup>1</sup> Preliminary.					

Table 6. Louisiana Job Openings and Labor Turnover, Total Nonfarm (in Thousands) by Month					
Category	5/16/2025 <sup>1</sup>	4/16/2025 <sup>2</sup>	5/16/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Job Openings	114	110	115	3.6%	-0.9%
Hires	73	81	80	-	-8.8%
Quits	45	43	51	4.7%	-11.8%
Layoffs and Discharges	20	24	25	-16.7%	-20.0%
Note: <sup>1</sup> Preliminary; <sup>2</sup> Revised.					

## 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 7. Energy Commodities, Weekly					
Commodity	7/25/25	7/18/25	7/26/24	% Change	
				(WoW)	(YoY)
Brent Crude Oil	\$70.09	\$70.66	\$82.52	-0.8%	-15.1%
WTI Crude Oil	\$67.11	\$68.07	\$79.26	-1.4%	-15.3%
Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.19	\$3.39	\$2.06	-5.9%	54.9%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$3.38	0.0%	-10.7%

Table 8. 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](https://tradingeconomics.com)

Table 9. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of July 31, 2025							
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar (\$)	Unit of Measurement	% Change			
				Daily	Weekly	Monthly	(YoY)
Soybeans	\$964.99	\$9.65	\$/Bu	-0.39%	-3.83%	-5.76%	-5.51%
Wheat	\$519.26	\$5.19	\$/Bu	-0.91%	-4.15%	-5.46%	-2.44%
Lumber	\$689.51	\$6.90	\$/MBF	-0.72%	3.46%	11.23%	37.92%
Palm Oil	\$4,277.00	\$42.77	\$/MT	0.02%	-0.90%	7.73%	9.41%
Sugar (No. 11)	\$16.56	\$0.17	\$/Lb	0.60%	-0.08%	5.50%	-10.80%
Coffee	\$300.70	\$3.01	\$/Lb	2.71%	-1.41%	1.92%	32.50%
Corn	\$388.61	\$3.89	\$/Bu	-0.74%	-3.15%	-7.35%	-2.36%
Rice	\$12.31	\$0.12	\$/CWT	-0.48%	-1.87%	-2.76%	-17.94%
Orange Juice	\$283.32	\$2.83	\$/Lb	-7.25%	-16.41%	31.50%	-32.66%

### 3. RESIDENTIAL SALES

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

**Table 10. U.S. Monthly New Residential Sales, by Status (Units in Thousands)**

Status	6/1/2025 <sup>1</sup>	5/1/2025 <sup>2</sup>	6/23/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Sold	54	56	58	-3.6%	-6.9%
For Sale	511	501	468	2.0%	9.2%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Preliminary; <sup>2</sup>Revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted.  
Source: [census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

The Existing-Home Sales data measures sales and prices of existing single-family homes for the nation overall in addition to regions of the country. These figures include condos and co-ops, in addition to single-family homes.

**Table 11. U.S. Existing Single-Family Home Sales**

Category	6/23/2025 <sup>1</sup>	5/24/2025 <sup>2</sup>	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 <sup>3</sup>	\$435,300	\$423,700	\$426,900	2.74%	1.97%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Preliminary; <sup>2</sup>Revised; <sup>3</sup>Median 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 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 12. U.S. Pending Home Sales Index**

Index	6/28/2025 <sup>1</sup>	5/28/2025 <sup>2</sup>	6/29/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Pending Home Sales Index	88.1	87.8	88.4	0.34%	-0.34%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Preliminary; <sup>2</sup>Revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted; January 2001 = 100.  
Source: [nar.realtor](https://www.nar.realtor)

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.

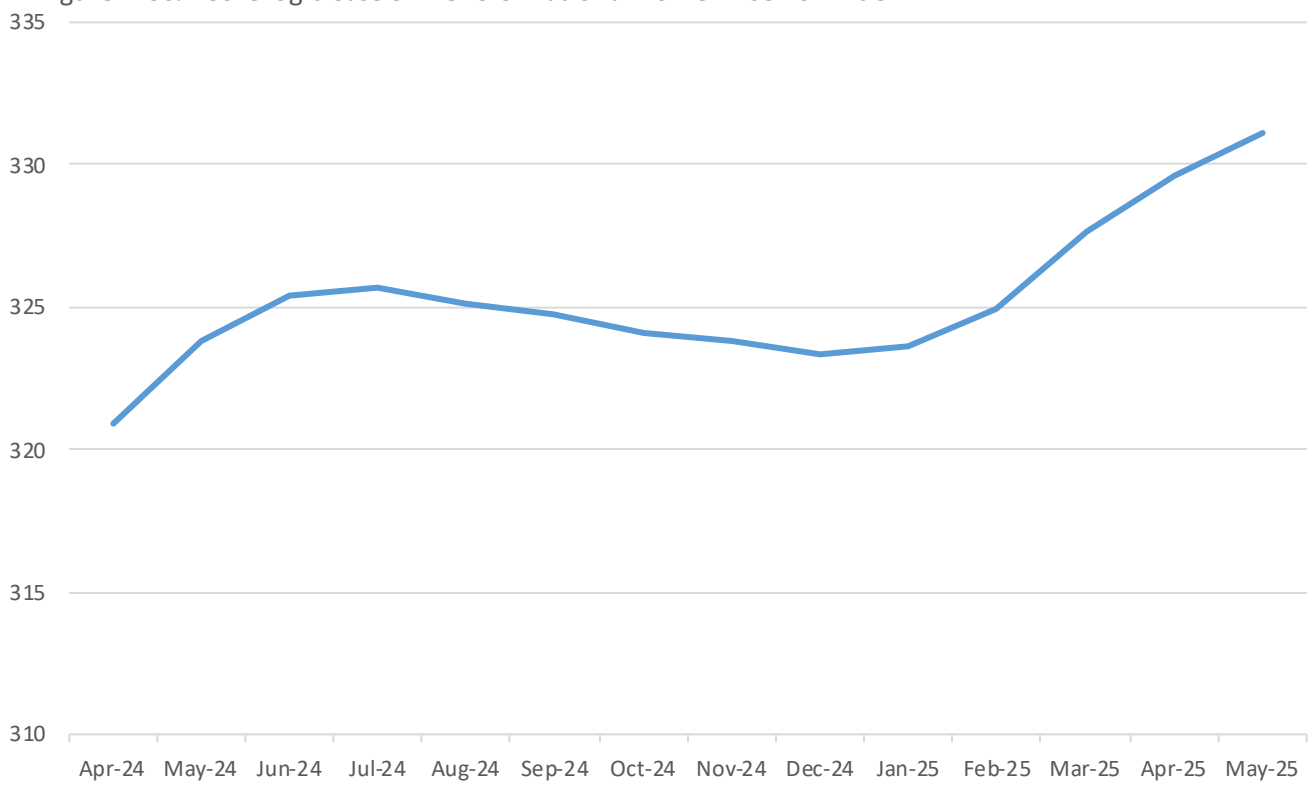
**Table 13. S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price Index**

Index	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Home Price Index	331.11	329.64	323.82	0.45%	2.25%

Note: January 2000 =100;  
Source: [spglobal.com](https://www.spglobal.com)



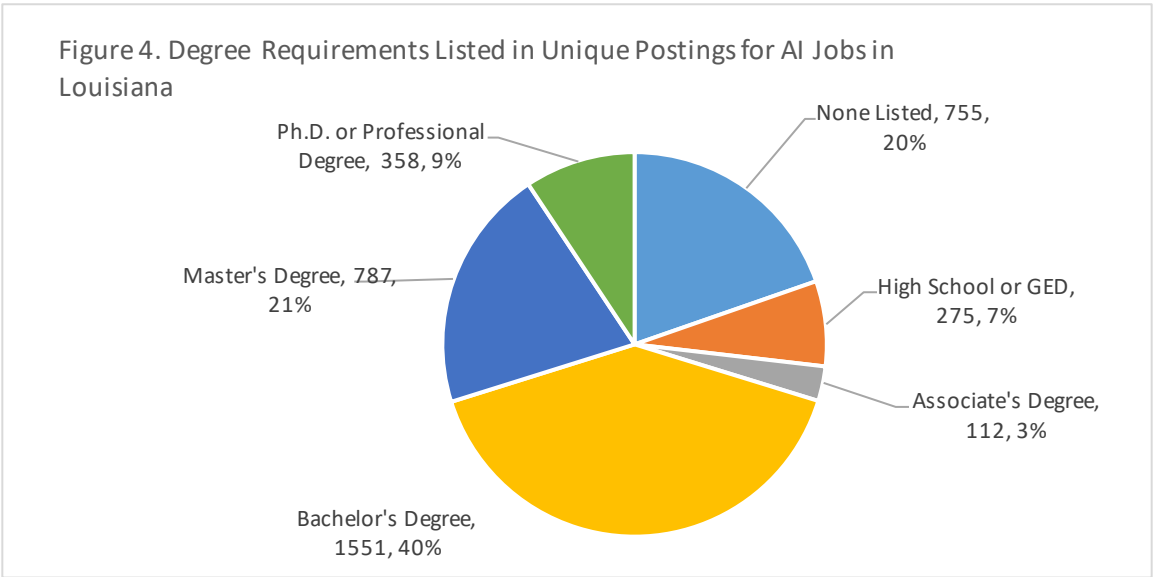
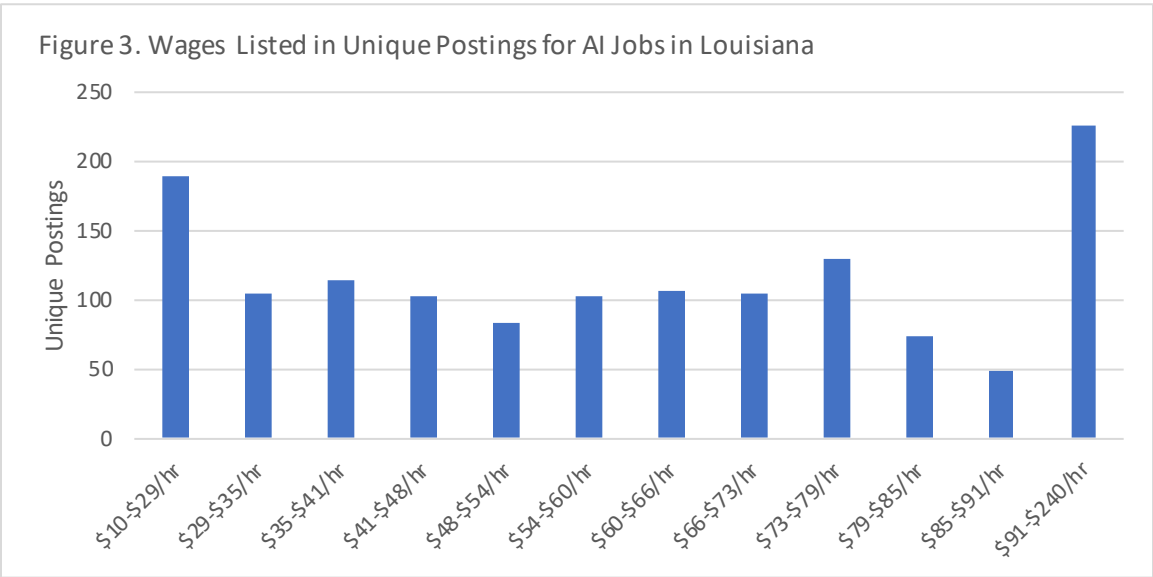
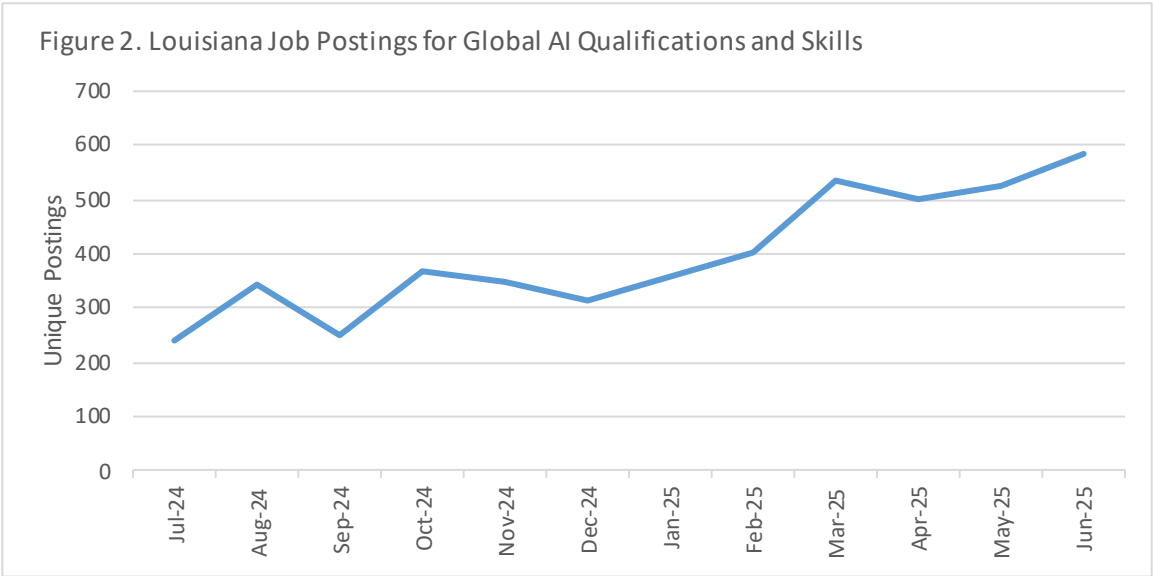
Figure 1. S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price NSA Index



# 4. AI JOB POSTING CHARACTERISTICS IN LOUISIANA

The following figures and table show the increase in unique job postings in Louisiana for occupations listing AI and generative AI skills as a requirement over the last 12 months, in addition to posted wages, degree requirements, and top posted positions.

Source: [lightcast.io](https://lightcast.io)



**Table 14. Louisiana AI Job Postings - Top Posted Occupations**

Occupation	Unique Postings (Dec 2024 - May 2025)	% of Total
Software Developer / Engineer	204	11.9%
Artificial Intelligence Engineer	144	8.4%
Data Scientist	99	5.8%
Computer Systems Engineer / Architect	80	4.7%
Product Manager	71	4.1%
Business Development / Sales Manager	60	3.5%
Data / Data Mining Analyst	59	3.4%
Analytics Manager	57	3.3%
Database Architect	53	3.1%
Cyber / Information Security Engineer / Analyst	47	2.7%
All Other	842	49.1%

## 5. DURABLE GOODS

The following table offers insight into U.S. Manufacturing activity for goods that generally last 3 years or more and serves as a forward-looking indicator of the economy. New orders include the dollar value of new purchase commitments received by manufacturers during the month and are a leading indicator of future production. Nondefense capital goods excluding aircraft serves as a proxy for business investment. Shipments include the value of orders that were completed and shipped during the month and signals actual production and sales for the month. Unfilled orders include the value of orders received but not yet completed (i.e., the backlog) and inventories make up the value of goods that manufacturers have produced but not yet shipped. This report forecasts business investment, signals economic turning points earlier than GDP and feeds into GDP estimates, industrial production indexes, and supply chain analysis.

**Table 15. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, New Orders, Unfilled Orders and Inventories (\$US, Millions)**

Industry	6/27/2025 <sup>1</sup>	5/27/2025 <sup>2</sup>	6/27/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Total Durable Goods					
Shipments	\$302,455	\$301,048	\$293,806	0.5%	2.9%
New Orders	\$311,848	\$343,981	\$281,128	-9.3%	10.9%
Unfilled Orders	\$1,470,001	\$1,455,620	\$1,372,271	1.0%	7.1%
Total Inventories	\$588,598	\$587,674	\$579,850	0.2%	1.5%
Nondefense Capital Goods <sup>3</sup>					
Shipments	\$75,970	\$75,699	\$74,135	0.4%	2.5%
New Orders	\$75,590	\$76,110	\$73,544	-0.7%	2.8%
Unfilled Orders	\$300,494	\$300,874	\$299,937	-0.1%	0.2%
Total Inventories	\$183,060	\$182,511	\$179,618	0.3%	1.9%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Advance sample, subject to revision; <sup>2</sup>Revised; <sup>3</sup>Excluding aircraft. Data are seasonally adjusted.

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



# 6. GDP & PERSONAL INCOME

The following tables present the first estimate for Q2:2025 U.S. gross domestic product and personal income. Real GDP for the U.S. increased at an annual rate of 3.0 percent in the second quarter of 2025 according to third estimate released by the U.S . Bureau of Economic Analysis. The increase in real GDP in the second quarter primarily reflected an decrease in imports, which are a subtraction in the calculation of GDP, and an increase in consumer spending.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis - [bea.gov](https://www.bea.gov)

Table 16. U.S. Real Gross Domestic Product and Major Expenditure Components, by Quarter					
Component	2025:Q2	2024:Q4	2024:Q2	% Change	
				(QoQ)	(YoY)
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	\$5,921.3	\$5,878.2	\$5,763.4	0.7%	2.7%
Personal Consumption Expenditures	\$4,087.6	\$4,073.0	\$3,964.2	0.4%	3.1%
Gross Private Domestic Investment	\$1,090.8	\$1,138.0	\$1,070.6	-4.2%	1.9%
Net Exports of Goods & Services	(\$256.6)	(\$339.8)	(\$244.3)		
Exports	\$657.0	\$660.0	\$643.0	-0.5%	2.2%
Imports	(\$913.6)	(\$999.7)	(\$887.2)	-8.6%	3.0%
Government Consumption Expenditures & Gross Investment	\$998.8	\$997.8	\$971.9	0.1%	2.8%
Note: Data are 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.					

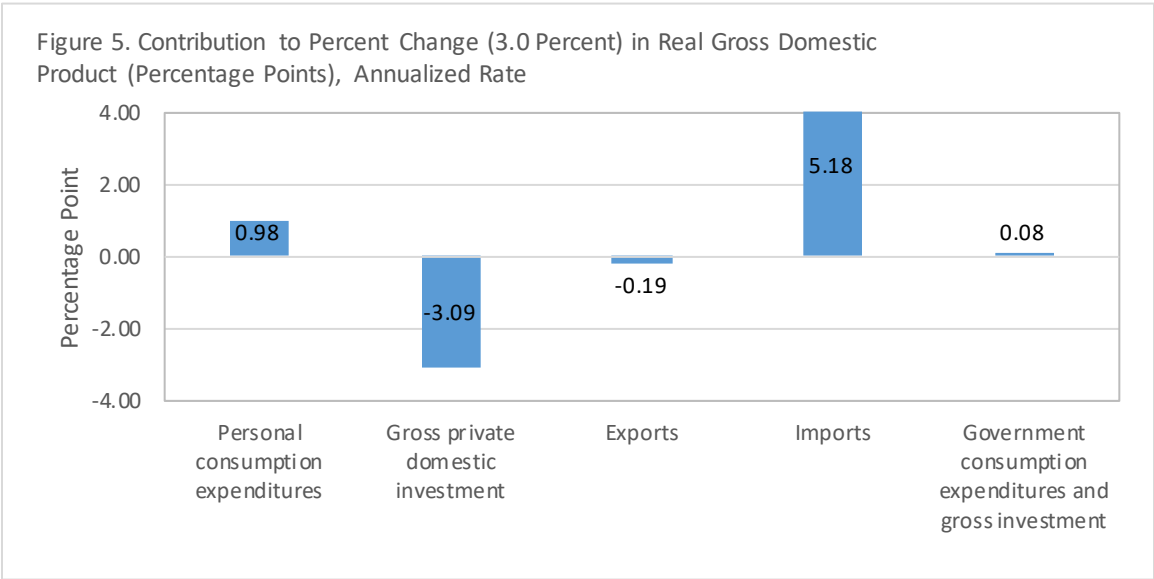


Table 17. U.S. Personal Income and Its Disposition, by Quarter					
Component	2025:Q2	2024:Q4	2024:Q2	% Change	
				(QoQ)	(YoY)
Personal Income	\$6,445.0	\$6,362.5	\$6,143.5	1.3%	4.9%
Disposable Personal Income	\$5,634.0	\$5,564.4	\$5,392.2	1.3%	4.5%
Personal Saving	\$262.6	\$240.9	\$265.3	9.0%	-1.0%
Personal Saving Rate	4.7	4.3	4.9	0.4	-0.2
Note: Data are seasonally adjusted billions of dollars, excluding personal saving rate. Change in Personal Saving Rate measured as percentage point.					

# August

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="#">Employment</a> [July] <b>1</b> <a href="#">Construction Spending</a> [June] <a href="#">ISM Manufacturing</a> [July] <a href="#">Total Vehicle Sales</a> [July]	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<a href="#">Trade Balance</a> [June] <a href="#">ISM Services</a> [July] <b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<a href="#">Productivity</a> [Q2 P] <a href="#">Consumer Credit</a> [June] <b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<a href="#">NFIB Small Business</a> [July] <a href="#">CPI</a> [July] <a href="#">Fed Budget</a> [July] <b>12</b>	<a href="#">State JOLTS</a> [June] <b>13</b>	<a href="#">PPI</a> [July] <b>14</b>	<a href="#">Retail Sales</a> [July] <a href="#">Industrial Production</a> [July] <a href="#">Business Inventories</a> [June] <a href="#">U. of Michigan Sentiment</a> [August] <b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<a href="#">NAHB Index</a> [August] <b>18</b>	<a href="#">Housing Starts</a> [July] <a href="#">State Employment</a> [July] <b>19</b>	<a href="#">FOMC Minutes</a> [July] <b>20</b>	<a href="#">Existing Home Sales</a> [July] <b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<a href="#">New Home Sales</a> [July] <b>25</b>	<a href="#">Durable Goods</a> [July] <a href="#">S&amp;P/C-S Home Prices</a> [June] <a href="#">Consumer Confidence</a> [August] <b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<a href="#">GDP &amp; Profits</a> [Q2 2 <sup>nd</sup> ] <a href="#">Pending Home Sales</a> [July] <b>28</b>	<a href="#">Personal Income</a> [July] <b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						