

Louisiana Economic Vitals

Friday, March 6, 2026



PREFACE

Louisiana Economic Vitals is a weekly report prepared by LED's State Economic Competitiveness (SEC) team. This report provides readers with data from federal and state governmental entities, as well as other credible third-party sources. All data has been independently analyzed and summarized to ensure clarity, brevity, and practical utilization.

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MARCH 2026 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[Studyville Enterprises Expands in Baton Rouge to Advance Locally-Developed EdTech Platforms](#)

March 5th, 2026

[La. builds on momentum with data center boom](#)

March 5th, 2026

[Why the Global Energy Future Runs Through Louisiana](#)

March 5th, 2026

[Shintech Louisiana Announces \\$3.4 Billion Expansion, Building on 25 Years of Growth and Commitment](#)

March 4th, 2026

[Louisiana Selects 19 FastSites in Historic State Investment](#)

March 3rd, 2026

Direct questions and comments to:

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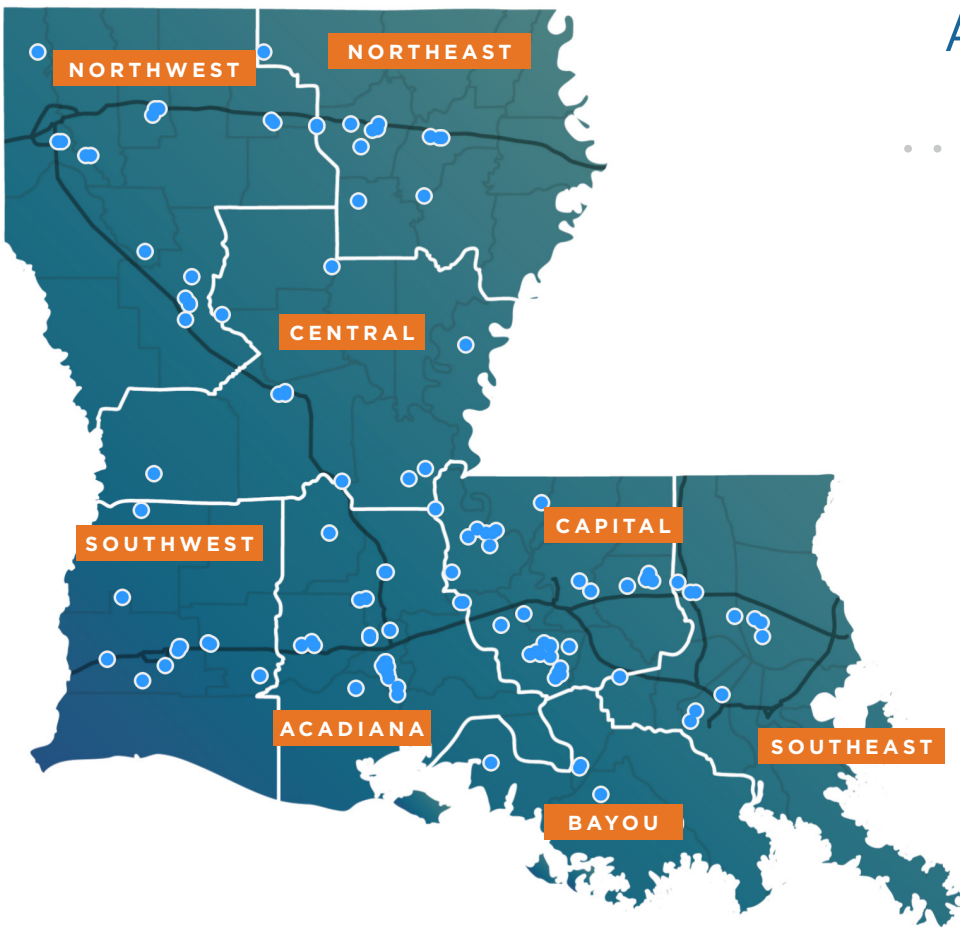
LED PROJECT PIPELINE

Since Governor Landry took office in January 2024, LED has announced 82 projects representing over \$91.1 billion USD in new investment and more than 12,690 direct new jobs across Louisiana.

As of February 26, 2026, LED is actively tracking and involved in 189 distinct projects with a combined value exceeding \$279.9 billion and the potential to create more than 41,800 direct new jobs.

CERTIFIED SITE PROGRAM

Since the launch of its Certified Sites Program, LED has certified 165 industrial sites, with all or portions of 36 sites advancing into active commerce. At full build-out, these projects represent more than \$34.5 billion in capital investment, over 6,350 direct new jobs, and more than \$407 million in total annual wages statewide. Currently, there are 125 actively marketed certified sites across every region of Louisiana.



Active Certified Sites by Region

Acadiana	23
Bayou	6
Capital	25
Central	9
Northeast	13
Northwest	17
Southeast	18
Southwest	14

TOTAL **125**

1. LABOR MARKET ACTIVITY

The following figures illustrate changes in job postings on Indeed for selected regions in Louisiana over the last year relative to February 21, 2025. For example, a reading of 101 signifies the overall level of job postings is 1% higher than the level on February 21, 2025 in that region.

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

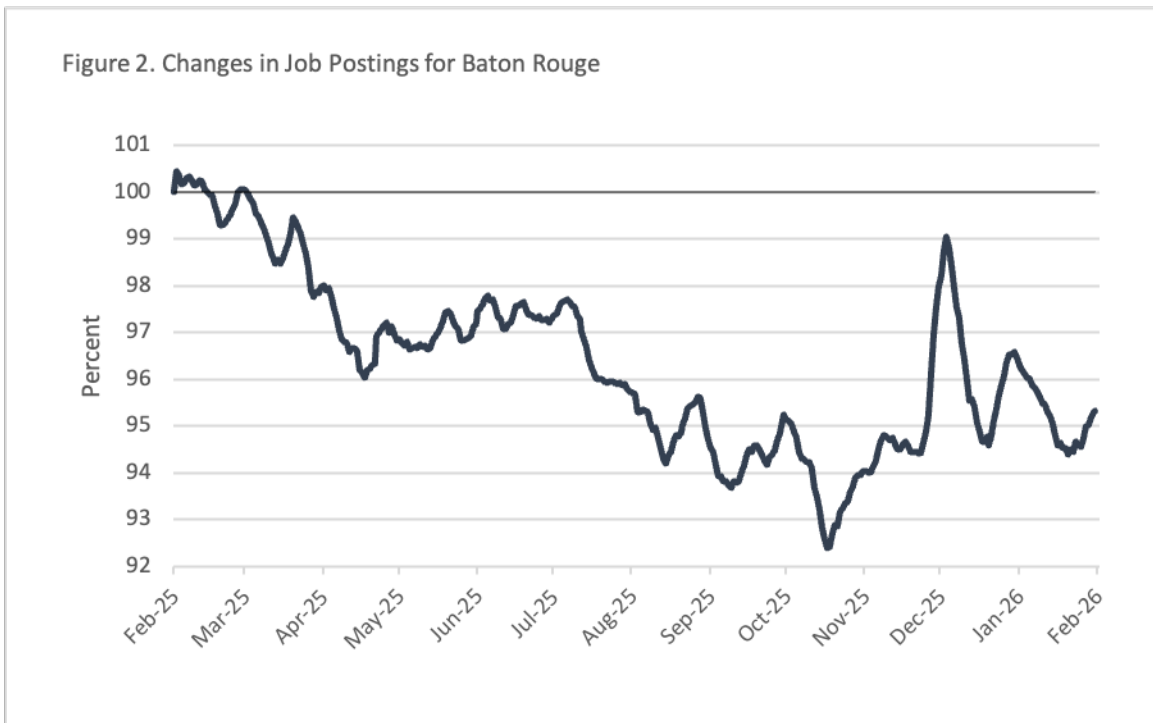


Figure 3. Changes in Job Postings for Hammond



Figure 4. Changes in Job Postings for Houma-Thibodaux



Figure 5. Changes in Job Postings for Lafayette



Figure 6. Changes in Job Postings for Lake Charles



Figure 7. Changes in Job Postings for Monroe



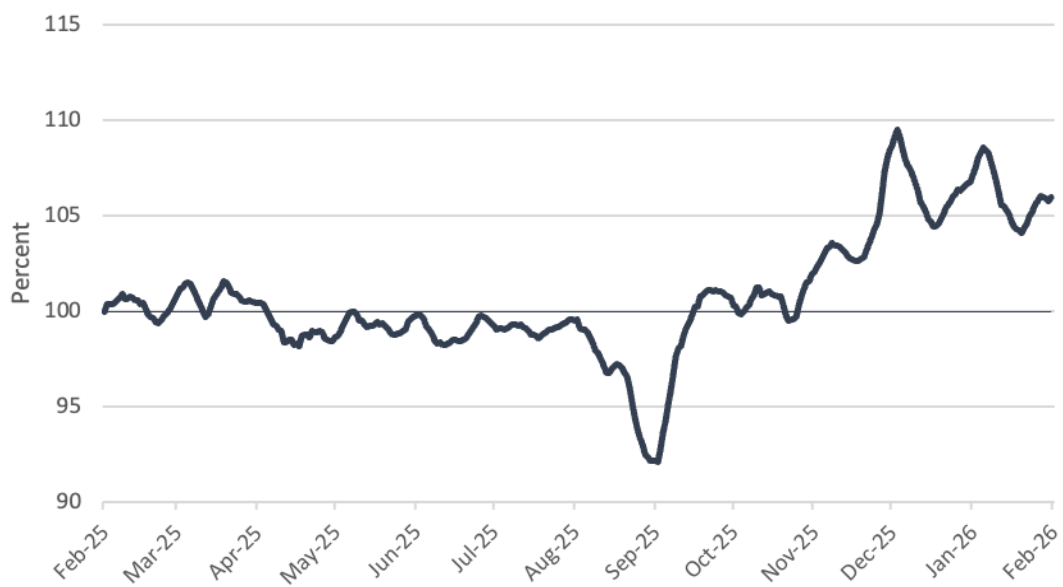
Figure 8. Changes in Job Postings for New Orleans-Metairie



Figure 9. Changes in Job Postings for Opelousas



Figure 10. Changes in Job Postings for Shreveport-Bossier City



2. COMMODITIES

The following tables provide data on the weekly prices of energy and agricultural commodities, reflecting the broader economic performance of these sectors.

Source: eia.gov

Table 1. Energy Commodities, Weekly							
Commodity	2/27/26	2/20/26	1/30/26	2/28/25	Change		
					WoW	MoM	YoY
Brent Crude Oil Price	\$71.36	\$71.66	\$70.43	\$74.25	-0.4%	1.3%	-3.9%
WTI Crude Oil Price	\$65.87	\$65.30	\$62.90	\$69.93	0.9%	4.7%	-5.8%
Henry Hub Natural Gas Spot Price	\$3.01	\$3.08	\$13.80	\$3.89	-2.3%	-78.2%	-22.6%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas Price	\$2.88	\$2.80	\$2.75	\$2.95	2.9%	4.7%	-2.4%

Table 2. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of March 6, 2026							
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar (\$)	Unit of Measurement	Change			
				Daily	Weekly	Monthly	YoY
Soybeans	\$1,172.95	\$11.73	\$/Bu	0.9%	1.4%	5.6%	16.2%
Wheat	\$598.29	\$5.98	\$/Bu	2.7%	1.2%	13.1%	12.1%
Lumber	\$556.04	\$5.56	\$/MBF	-1.9%	-0.4%	-6.9%	-13.3%
Palm Oil	\$4,246.00	\$42.46	\$/MT	0.7%	4.9%	2.2%	-5.2%
Sugar (No. 11)	\$13.83	\$0.14	\$/Lb	1.1%	-0.4%	-3.6%	-24.5%
Coffee	\$292.66	\$2.93	\$/Lb	-1.0%	4.3%	-0.3%	-25.4%
Corn	\$445.54	\$4.46	\$/Bu	1.0%	1.6%	3.9%	-2.1%
Rice	\$10.79	\$0.11	\$/CWT	3.4%	3.8%	-3.6%	-18.5%
Orange Juice	\$188.44	\$1.88	\$/Lb	-1.9%	1.6%	19.4%	-34.4%

3. REAL ESTATE - U.S., LOUISIANA, AND SELECTED STATES

The following table presents monthly building permits and value-per-unit for privately-owned single-housing units for the U.S. , Louisiana, and selected states. The ratio of each state's value-per-unit to the U.S. is also listed as well as the preliminary annual count (for 2025) and value-per-unit.

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

Table 3. New Privately Owned Single-Housing Units Authorized, by U.S. and Selected States						
Region	Dec-25			Nov-25		
	Single Units	Value-per-unit	Region-to-U.S.-value	Single Units	Value-per-unit	Region-to-U.S.-value
United States	63,639	\$328	1.00	58,467	\$324	1.00
Alabama	1,162	\$285	0.87	1,246	\$282	0.87
Arkansas	823	\$305	0.93	604	\$285	0.88
Florida	7,578	\$370	1.13	6,975	\$341	1.05
Georgia	2,924	\$283	0.86	2,581	\$283	0.87
Kentucky	534	\$280	0.85	636	\$288	0.89
Louisiana	835	\$257	0.78	832	\$249	0.77
Mississippi	492	\$219	0.67	598	\$208	0.64
Missouri	716	\$372	1.13	763	\$374	1.15
North Carolina	4,228	\$310	0.95	4,051	\$317	0.98
Oklahoma	849	\$313	0.95	623	\$295	0.91
South Carolina	2,829	\$335	1.02	2,718	\$315	0.97
Tennessee	2,199	\$308	0.94	2,107	\$312	0.96
Texas	9,209	\$291	0.89	8,673	\$299	0.92

Table 3. New Privately Owned Single-Housing Units Authorized, by U.S. and Selected States (Continued)

Region	Dec-24			2025 (Preliminary)		
	Single Units	Value-per-unit	Region-to-U.S.-value	Single Units	Value-per-unit	Region-to-U.S.-value
United States	68,286	\$313	1.00	909,280	\$319	1.00
Alabama	1,299	\$268	0.86	15,321	\$294	0.92
Arkansas	690	\$295	0.94	10,286	\$287	0.90
Florida	8,786	\$318	1.02	110,634	\$332	1.04
Georgia	3,445	\$292	0.93	43,931	\$294	0.92
Kentucky	548	\$300	0.96	8,470	\$281	0.88
Louisiana	822	\$255	0.82	11,376	\$258	0.81
Mississippi	528	\$189	0.61	7,292	\$201	0.63
Missouri	778	\$344	1.10	11,465	\$355	1.11
North Carolina	4,515	\$297	0.95	65,153	\$303	0.95
Oklahoma	793	\$279	0.89	11,459	\$277	0.87
South Carolina	2,730	\$333	1.06	39,652	\$320	1.00
Tennessee	2,350	\$277	0.89	31,324	\$310	0.97
Texas	11,809	\$286	0.92	140,002	\$292	0.92

4. PORTS

The following figures provide a snapshot of short-term export, import, and vessel arrival activity across Louisiana's five deep-water ports, reflecting the region's current economic conditions, trade patterns, industrial strengths, and supply chain dynamics.

Source: portwatch.imf.org

Figure 11. Baton Rouge Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

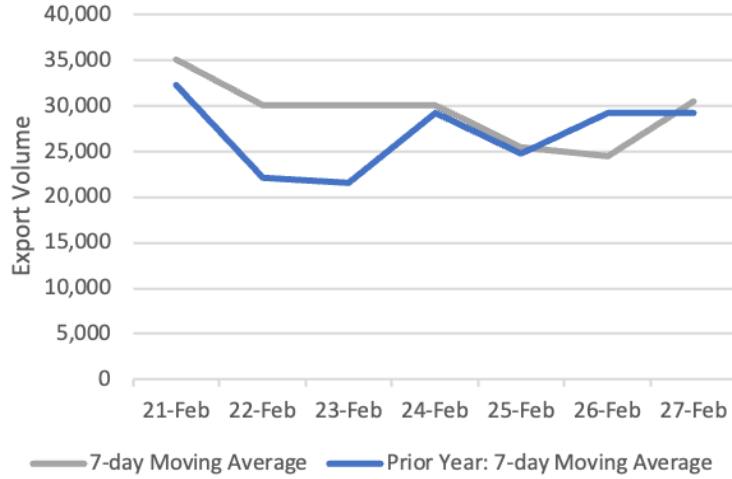


Figure 12. New Orleans Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

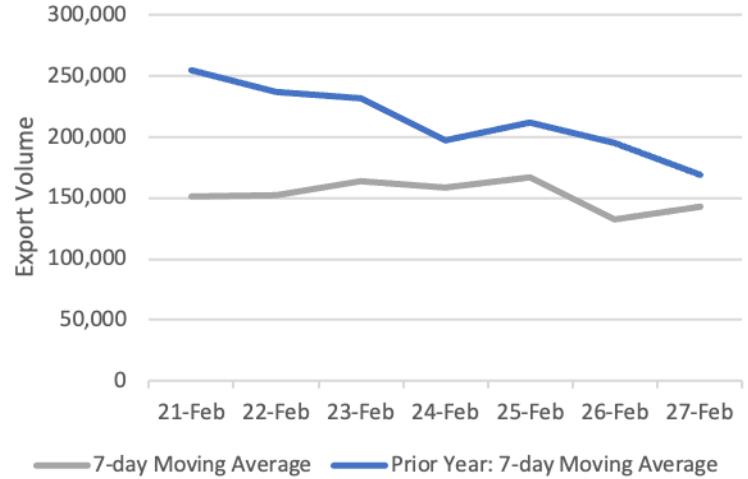


Figure 13. South Louisiana Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

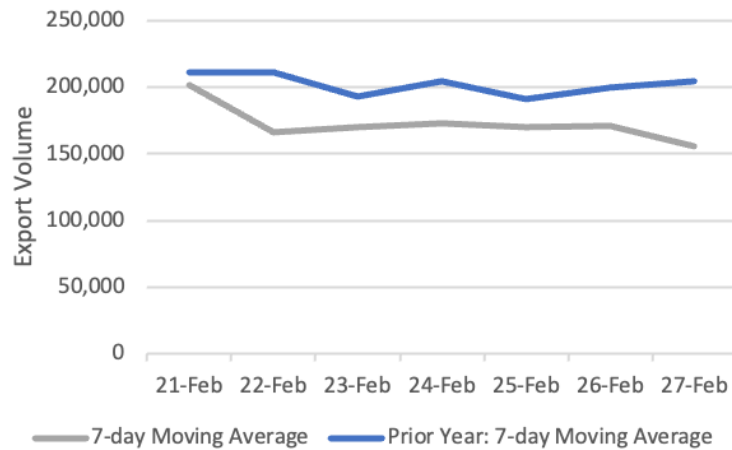


Figure 14. Lake Charles Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

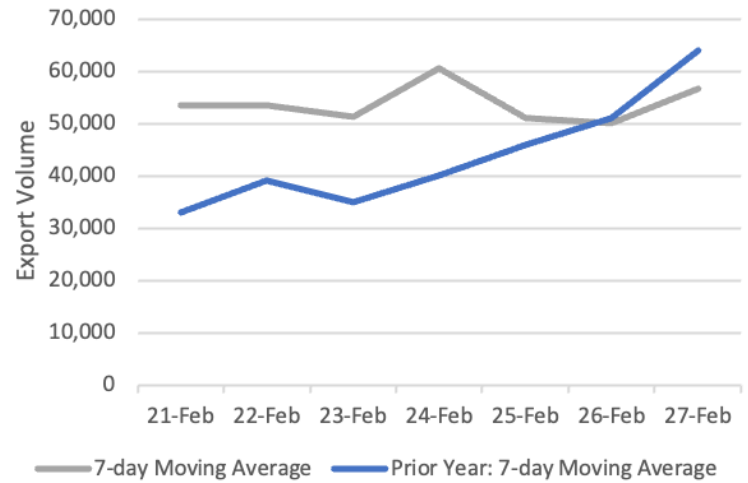


Figure 15. Plaquemines Port Export Volume, by Tonnage

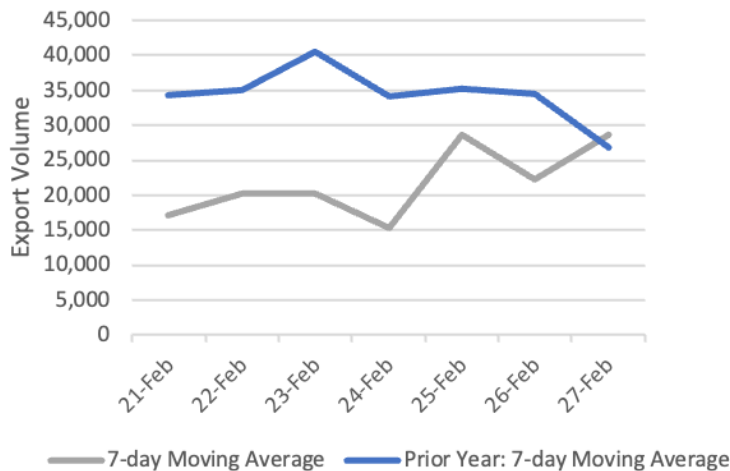


Figure 16. Baton Rouge Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

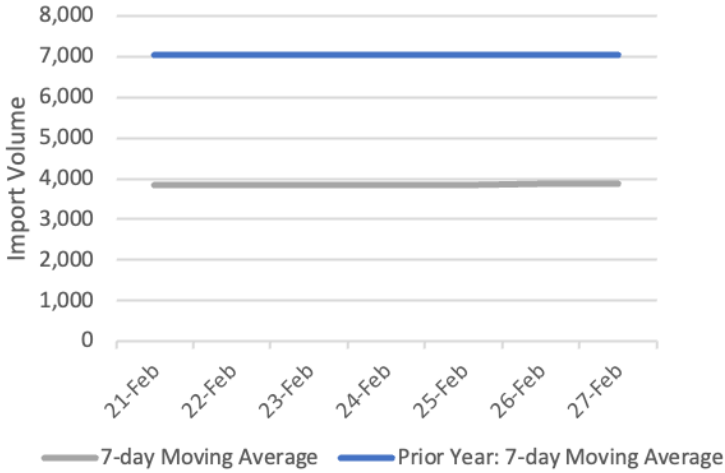


Figure 17. New Orleans Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

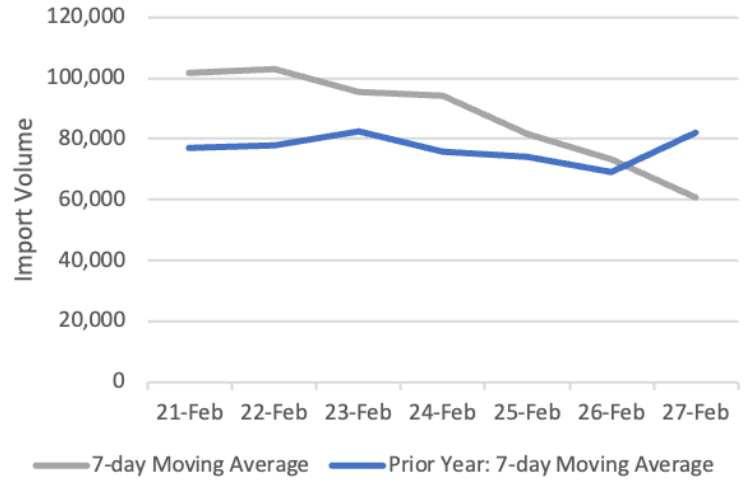


Figure 18. South Louisiana Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

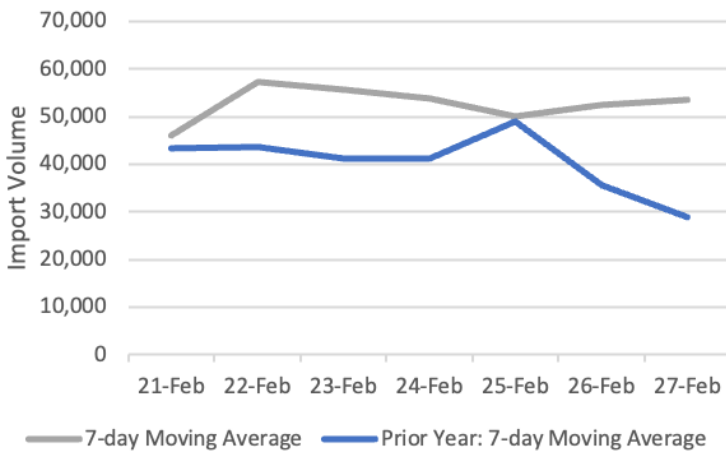


Figure 19. Lake Charles Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

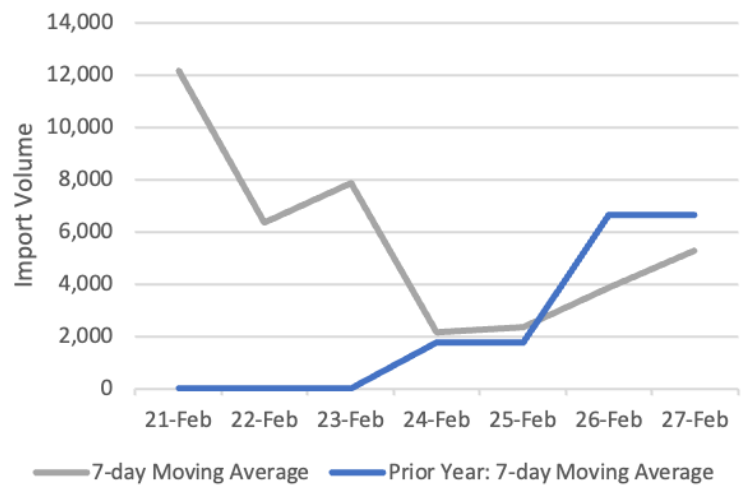


Figure 20. Plaquemines Port Import Volume, by Tonnage

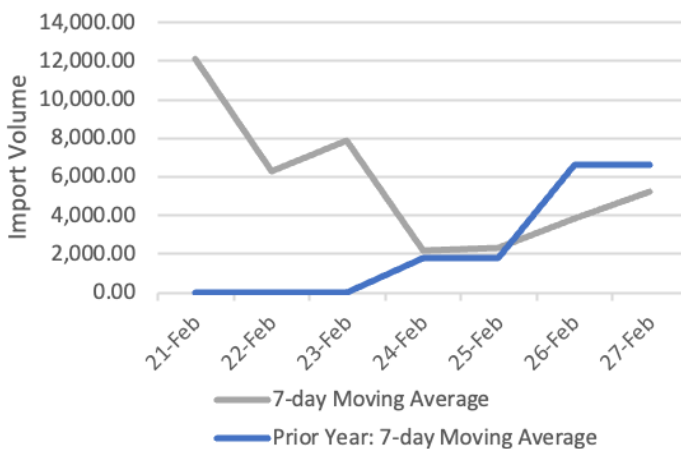


Figure 21. Baton Rouge Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

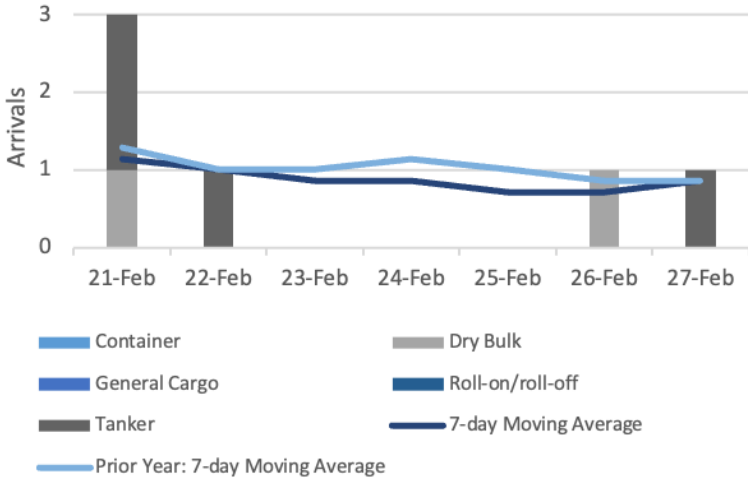


Figure 22. New Orleans Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

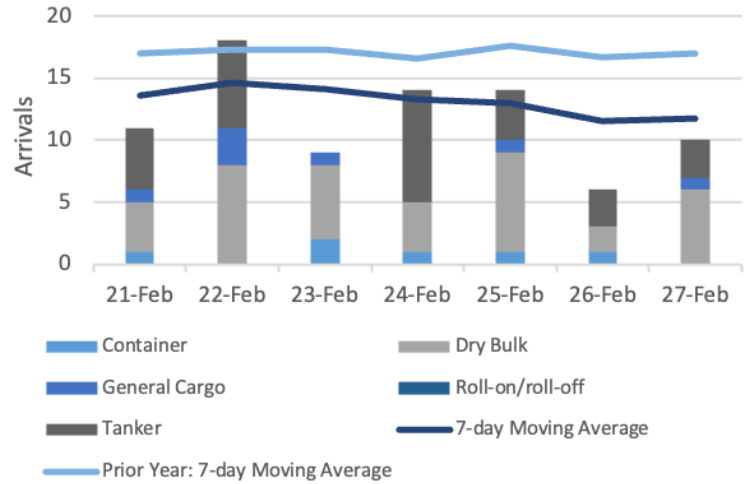


Figure 23. South Louisiana Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

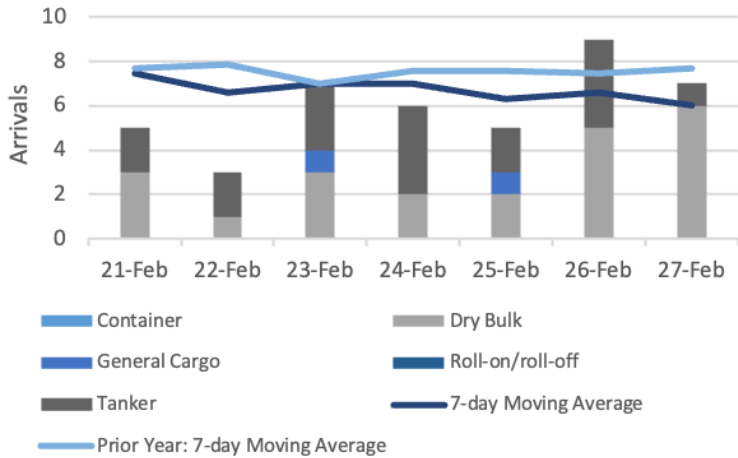


Figure 24. Lake Charles Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel

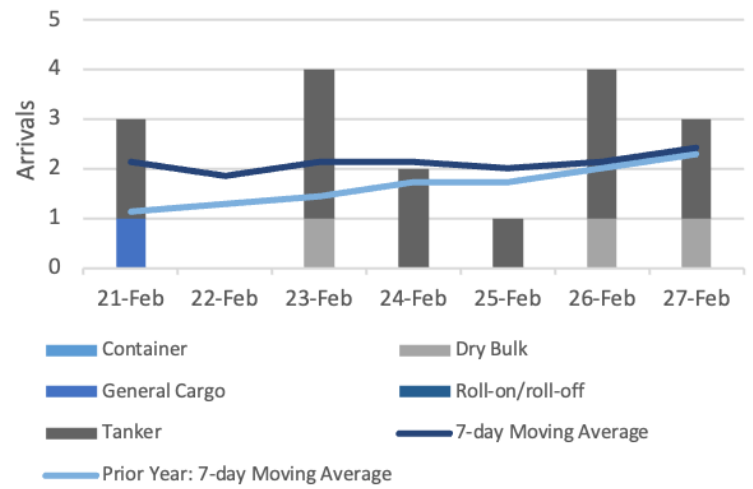
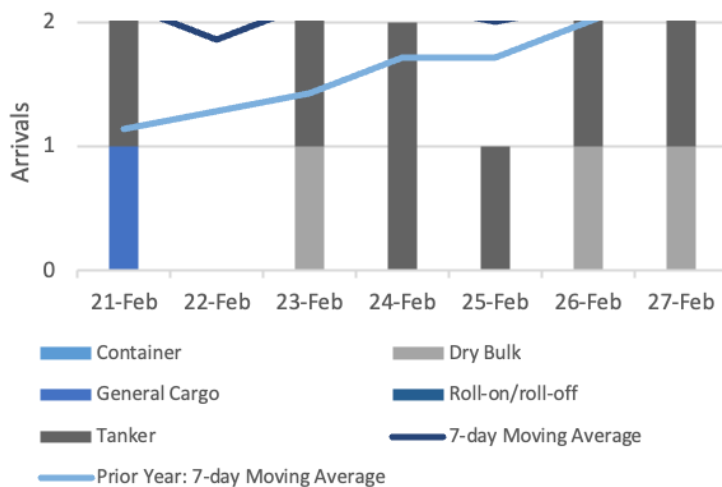


Figure 25. Plaquemines Port Arrivals, by Type of Vessel



March

2026

Economic Calendar

The *Louisiana Economic Vitals* 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	2	3	4	5 U.S. Import & Export Price Indexes [Jan]	6 Employment [Feb] Manufacturing & Trade Inventory & Sales [Dec]	7
8	9	10 Parish Employment & Wages [QCEW] [2025:Q3] NFIB Small Business Optimism Index [Feb]	11 CPI [Feb] Real Earnings [Feb] Federal Budget [Feb]	12 New Residential Construction [Jan]	13 U. of Michigan Sentiment [Mar] Durable Goods [Jan]	14
15 Industrial Production [Feb]	16 NAHB HMI [Mar] Pending Home Sales [Feb]	17 PPI [Feb]	18 New Residential Sales [Jan]	19	20	21
22	23	24 U.S. Import & Export Price Indexes [Feb]	25	26 Total Vehicle Sales [Feb]	27	28
29	30 Consumer Confidence [Mar]	31				