Louisiana
Economic Vitals
Friday, June 5, 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 June 2026 Announcements:

Louisiana Builds on Hydrogen Innovation with NovaSpark Expansion
June 4th, 2026

Integer Technologies Expands at LSU, Building Louisiana's Defense Tech Talent Pipeline
June 3rd, 2026

Competing Globally, Growing Locally
June 2nd, 2026

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LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

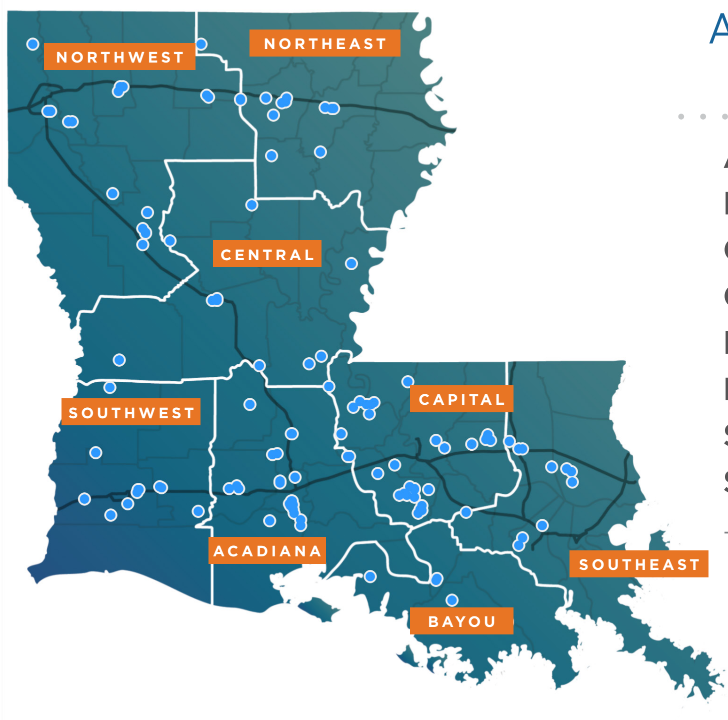
LED PROJECT PIPELINE

Since Governor Landry took office in January 2024, LED has announced 96 projects representing over $109.9 billion USD in new investment and more than 14,770 direct new jobs across Louisiana.

As of June 4, 2026, LED is actively tracking and involved in 178 distinct projects with a combined value exceeding $353.7 billion and the potential to create more than 54,940 direct new jobs.

CERTIFIED SITE PROGRAM

Since the launch of its Certified Sites Program, LED has certified 167 industrial sites, with all or portions of 39 sites advancing into active commerce. At full build-out, these projects represent more than $40 billion in capital investment, over 6,600 direct new jobs, and more than $440 million in total annual wages statewide. Currently, there are 126 actively marketed certified sites across every region of Louisiana.



Active Certified Sites by Region

Acadiana	26
Bayou	6
Capital	22
Central	9
Northeast	14
Northwest	17
Southeast	18
Southwest	14
TOTAL	126

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LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. LABOR MARKET ACTIVITY

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program produces a comprehensive tabulation of data on the number of establishments, monthly employment and quarterly wages for workers covered by State unemployment insurance (UI) laws and Federal workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program. Figure 1 illustrates - and Table 1 lists - the change in total employment from Q4:2024 to Q4:2025 and the difference in total payroll that was paid in Q4:2024 compared to what was paid in Q4:2025 by major industries in Louisiana, including a scale for average industry employment represented by bubble size. Figure 2 illustrates - and Table 2 lists - the change in total employment as a year-over-year percentage rate from Q4:2024 to Q4:2025 and the average weekly wage that was paid Q4:2025 by major industries in Louisiana, including a scale for average industry employment represented by bubble size.

Source: bls.gov

Key Takeaways

- Louisiana's strongest employment growth during 2025 occurred primarily in mid- to upper-middle-wage industries rather than in the state's highest-paying sectors.
- Health Care and Social Assistance added approximately 5,000 jobs, accounting for the largest employment gain among major industries while also generating the largest increase in payroll.
- Transportation and Warehousing added nearly 3,000 jobs and posted one of the largest payroll increases, suggesting continued strength in logistics, distribution, and trade-related activity.
- Many industries recorded higher payrolls despite little change in employment. Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Finance and Insurance, and Wholesale Trade all posted substantial payroll gains with relatively flat employment, indicating rising earnings per worker, not counting inflation.

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Table 1. Louisiana, Employment (Q4:2025) and Employment and Payroll Comparison (Q4:2024 to Q4:2025), by Industry			
Industry	**Employment Change**	**Payroll Difference (in thousands)**	**Employment (Q4:2025)**
Health Care and Social Assistance	4,983	$288,995.03	337,483
Construction	-664	$48,030.78	144,394
Manufacturing	15	$69,383.60	140,383
Professional and Technical Services	-599	$37,077.81	98,577
Transportation and Warehousing	2,979	$86,402.58	86,018
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-372	$83.19	7,577
Mining	-619	$17,291.20	26,208
Utilities	294	$12,595.38	13,347
Wholesale trade	-260	$55,375.97	67,987
Retail trade	-41	$82,081.64	214,236
Information	-1,368	$159.25	20,627
Finance and insurance	107	$66,456.18	57,059
Real estate and rental and leasing	391	$35,536.89	31,496
Management of companies and enterprises	-1,289	-$25,583.69	20,344
Administrative and waste services	-2,652	$26,301.50	106,762
Educational services	-2,562	$27,506.59	172,372
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	231	$10,823.84	34,167
Accommodation and food services	-300	$14,073.53	196,794
Other services, except public administration	482	$36,994.33	48,477
Public administration	-633	$34,854.26	95,317

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LOUISIANA
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Figure 1. Louisiana Industry Employment Change and Payroll Difference, Q4 2024 to Q4 2025 (Bubble size represents average employment)

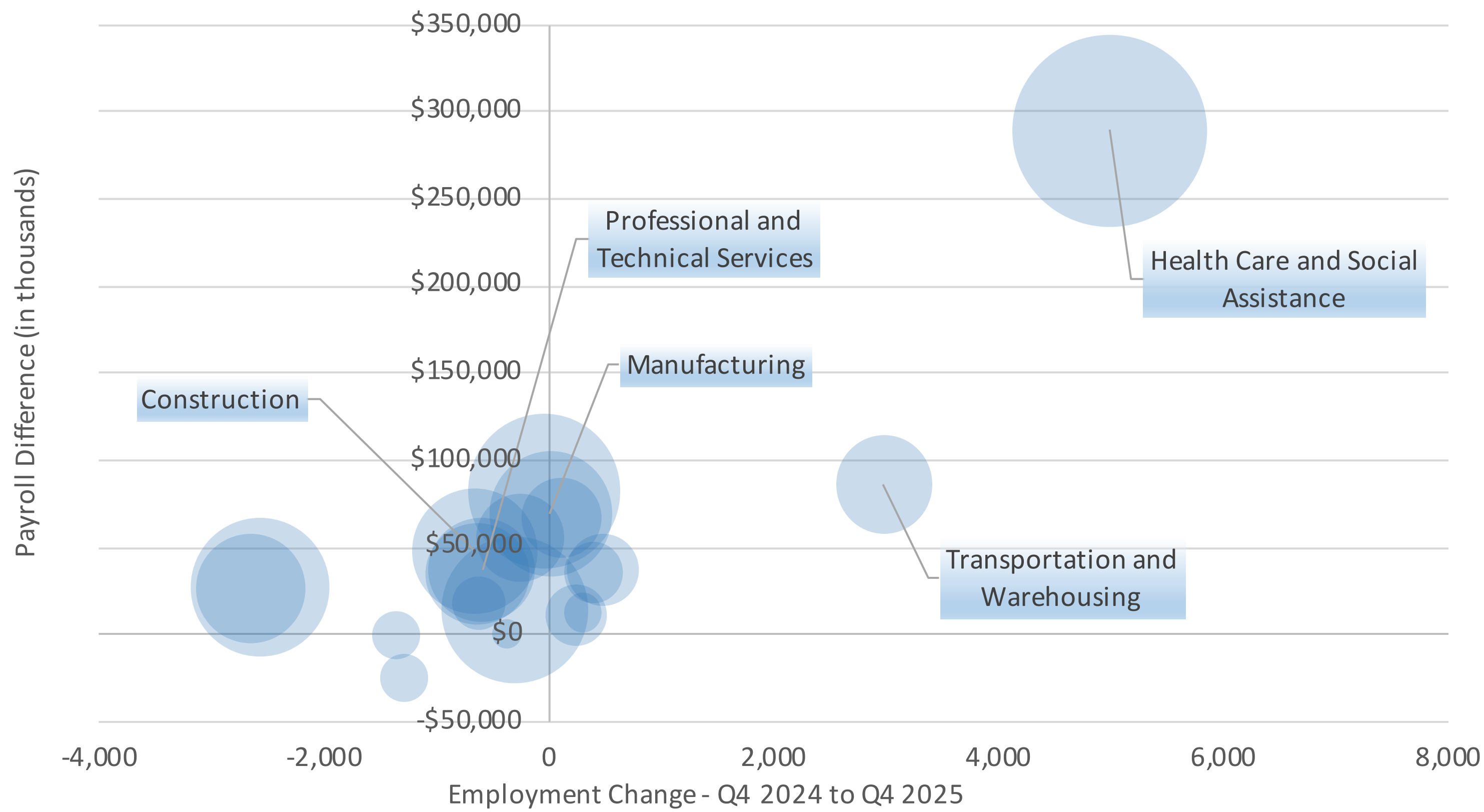

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Table 2. Louisiana, Employment Comparison (Q4:2024 to Q4:2025) and Employment and Average Weekly Wage (Q4:2025) , by Industry			
Industry	**Employment Change**	**Payroll Difference (in thousands)**	**Employment (Q4:2025)**
Health Care and Social Assistance	1.5%	$1,191	337,483
Construction	-0.5%	$1,694	144,394
Manufacturing	0.0%	$1,849	140,383
Professional and Technical Services	-0.6%	$1,955	98,577
Transportation and Warehousing	3.6%	$1,443	86,018
Retail trade	0.0%	$740	214,236
Accommodation and food services	-0.2%	$500	196,794
Educational services	-1.5%	$1,100	172,372
Administrative and waste services	-2.4%	$1,067	106,762
Public administration	-0.7%	$1,340	95,317
Wholesale trade	-0.4%	$1,781	67,987
Finance and insurance	0.2%	$1,789	57,059
Other services, except public administration	1.0%	$1,036	48,477
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	0.7%	$1,019	34,167
Real estate and rental and leasing	1.3%	$1,342	31,496
Mining	-2.3%	$2,372	26,208
Information	-6.2%	$1,480	20,627
Management of companies and enterprises	-6.0%	$2,226	20,344
Utilities	2.3%	$1,718	13,347
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-4.7%	$1,301	7,577

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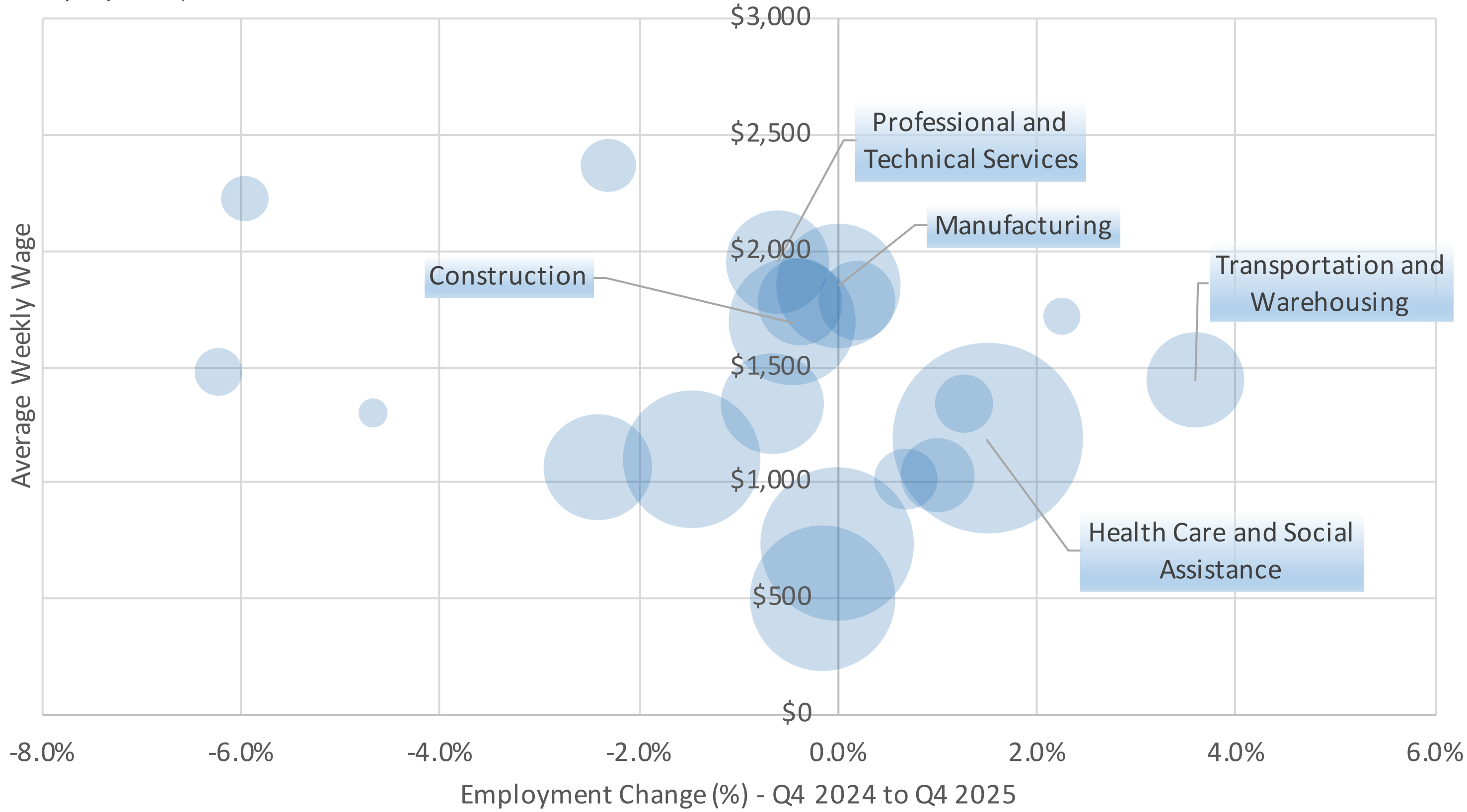
Figure 2. Louisiana Industry Growth and Wage Profile, Q4 2025 (Bubble size represents average employment)



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2. COMMODITIES

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

The spot price is the price for immediate delivery, as agreed right now in the market. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude spot price is for delivery at Cushing, Oklahoma, a pipeline hub. WTI is a light, sweet (low sulfur) crude and is the primary U.S. benchmark. It is landlocked at Cushing. The Brent Crude spot price refers to crude loaded onto tankers at offshore terminals in the North Sea (originally from the Brent oilfield, a blend of several North Sea crudes). Because it is seaborne, it more directly reflects the global market price. The Henry Hub Natural Gas spot price is for natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub pipeline interchange in Louisiana, the largest natural gas trading hub in North America. The U.S. regular conventional gasoline price is the retail price paid at the pump, including taxes, based on a weekly survey of retail stations across the country. It covers regular grade - lowest octane - and does not include reformulated gasoline.

Source: [eia.gov](eia.gov) & tradingeconomics.com

Key Takeaways

- Oil prices have retreated sharply in recent weeks.
- Oil prices remain well above year-ago levels, suggesting energy markets remain considerably stronger than they were during much of 2025.
- Natural gas prices continue to strengthen. Henry Hub natural gas increased 18.8% over the month and 4.3% year-over-year.
- Retail gasoline prices have not fully followed crude oil downward. U.S. gasoline prices fell only 3.9% over the month despite much larger declines in crude prices and remains 38.0% above year-ago levels.

Table 3. Energy Commodities, Weekly

					Change		
Commodity	5/29/26	5/22/26	5/1/26	5/30/25	WoW	MoM	YoY
Brent Crude Oil Price	$97.05	$110.61	$119.63	$64.74	-12.3%	-18.9%	49.9%
WTI Crude Oil Price	$93.45	$105.32	$105.57	$61.82	-11.3%	-11.5%	51.2%
Henry Hub Natural Gas Spot Price	$3.16	$3.11	$2.66	$3.03	1.6%	18.8%	4.3%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas Price	$4.14	$4.33	$4.31	$3.00	-4.4%	-3.9%	38.0%

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Table 4. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of June 4, 2026							
				Change			
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar ($)	Unit of Measurement	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	YoY
Soybeans	$1,128.75	$11.29	$/Bu	-2.2%	-5.5%	-5.6%	7.3%
Wheat	$581.75	$5.82	$/Bu	-0.9%	-6.8%	-5.6%	6.7%
Lumber	$606.50	$6.07	$/MBF	1.5%	3.2%	5.1%	0.2%
Palm Oil	$4,601.00	$46.01	$/MT	-1.6%	1.4%	-2.3%	17.9%
Sugar (No. 11)	$14.28	$0.14	$/Lb	0.3%	2.5%	-7.1%	-14.1%
Coffee	$247.35	$2.47	$/Lb	-2.3%	-9.8%	-14.6%	-30.9%
Corn	$423.75	$4.24	$/Bu	-1.8%	-7.0%	-9.0%	-3.6%
Rice	$12.38	$0.12	$/CWT	-1.2%	-4.3%	5.7%	-9.1%
Orange Juice	$168.75	$1.69	$/Lb	0.2%	0.1%	-7.4%	-38.2%

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3. LOUISIANA INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Foreign exports are a component of final demand and represent the value of goods and services produced by Louisiana industries and sold to customers outside the United States. At the state level, IMPLAN allocates a portion of national exports to Louisiana based on production location, industry specialization, and supply-demand balancing, using a regionalized input-output framework and trade flow estimates derived from a variety of federal data sources. The following figures illustrate the relationship between foreign exports, export intensity (the share of industry output sold abroad), and total industry output (bubble size) for 2024 across Louisiana and its metropolitan areas.

Source: implan.com

Key Takeaways

- New Orleans remains Louisiana's primary international trade hub, with the state's largest concentration of export-oriented manufacturing industries.
- Export specialization varies considerably across regions, with agricultural exports playing a larger role in central and northeast Louisiana, while coastal metros maintain strengths in manufacturing, marine industries, and energy-related activities.
- Many of the state's most export-intensive industries are relatively small, while the largest industries often generate substantial export value despite exporting a smaller share of their total output.
- Export activity in the Northshore and Bayou regions extends beyond traditional resource industries, with business services, transportation, and research-related industries contributing to foreign sales.

Figure 3. Louisiana Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

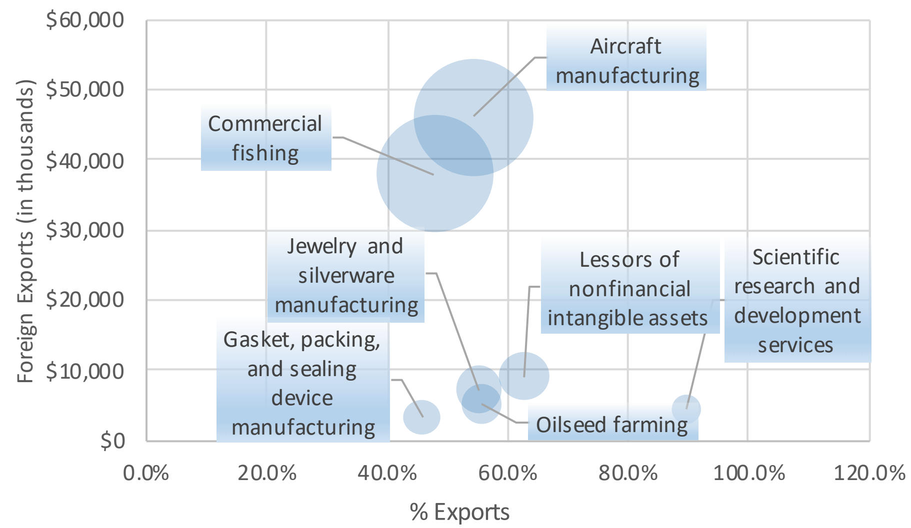

Figure 4. Alexandria Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

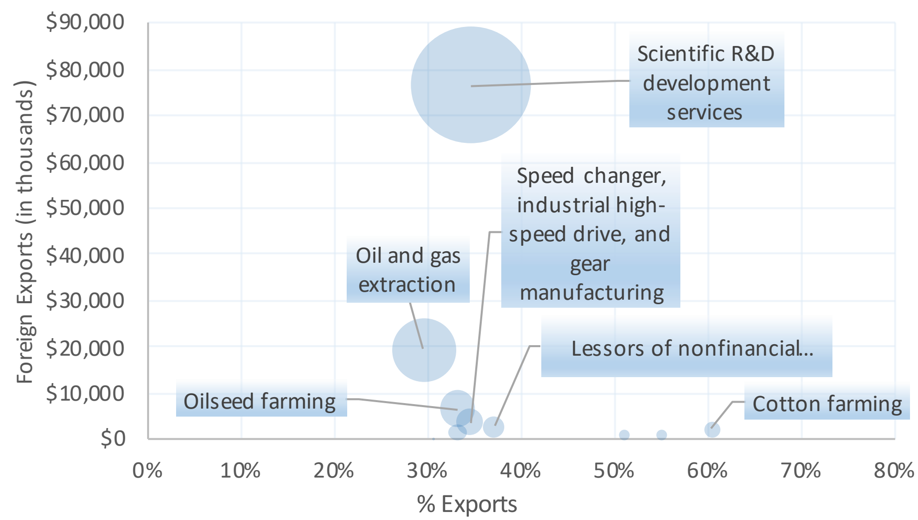

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Figure 5. Baton Rouge Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

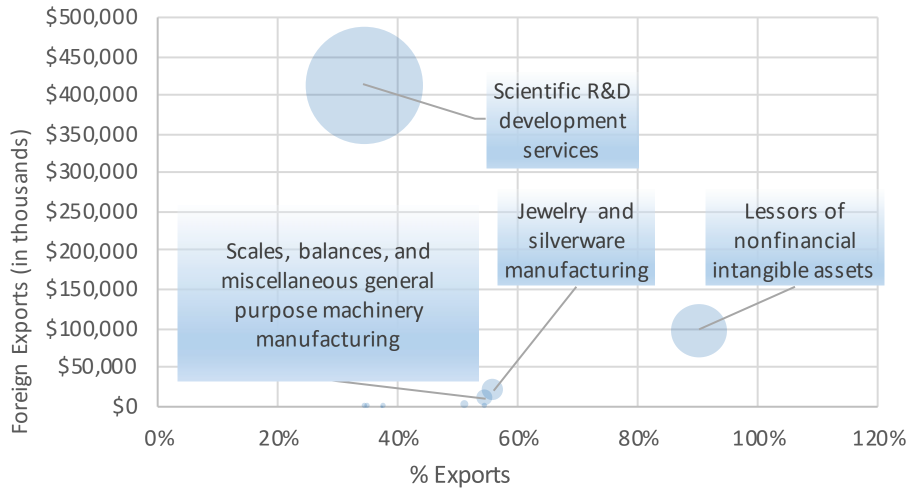

Figure 6. Hammond Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

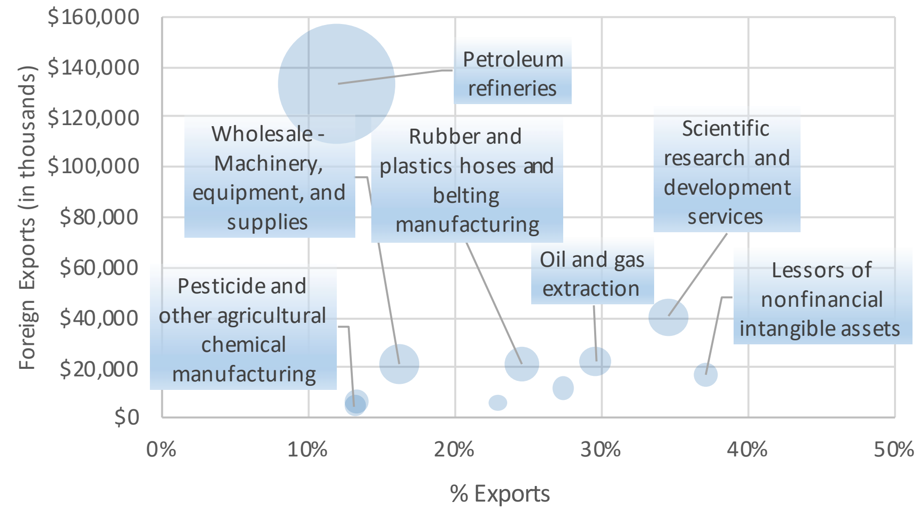

Figure 7. Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

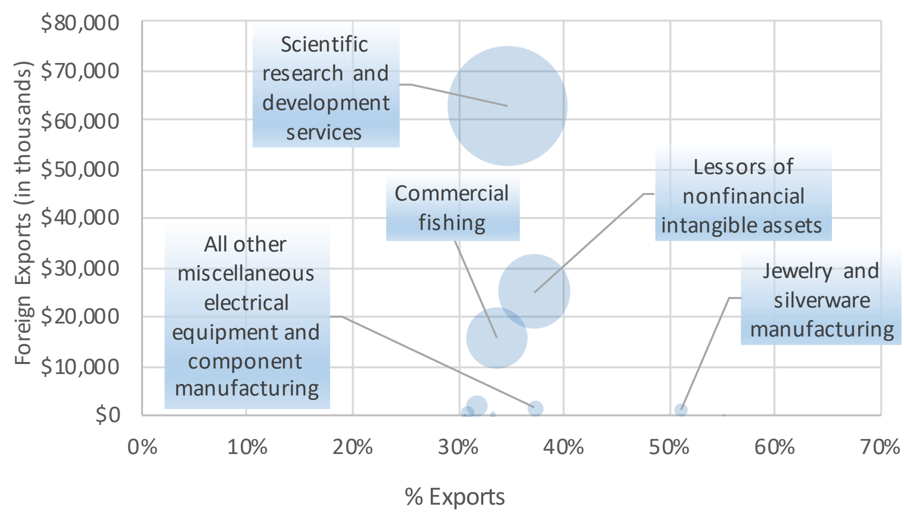

Figure 8. Lafayette Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

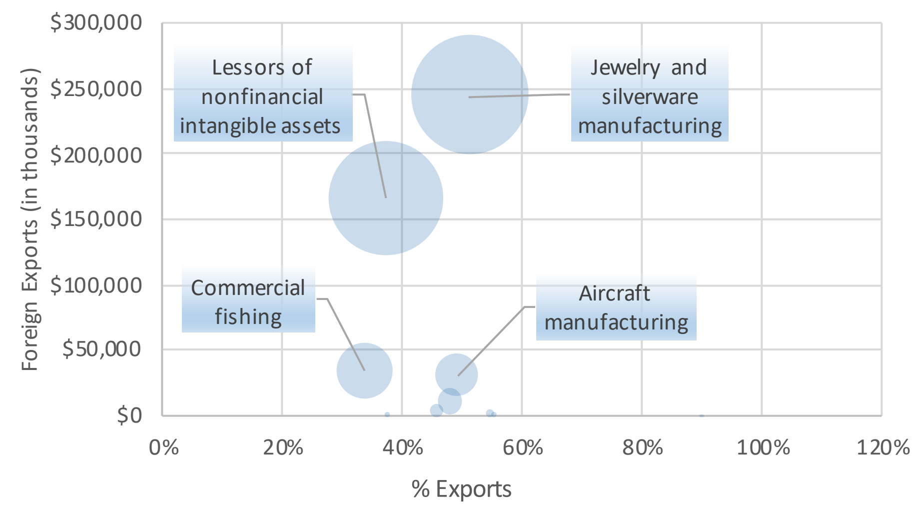

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Figure 9. Lake Charles Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

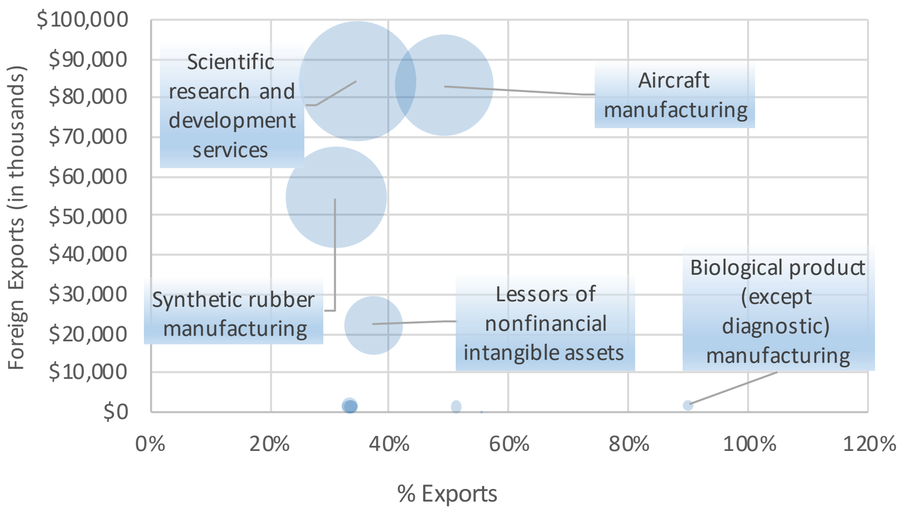

Figure 10. Monroe Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

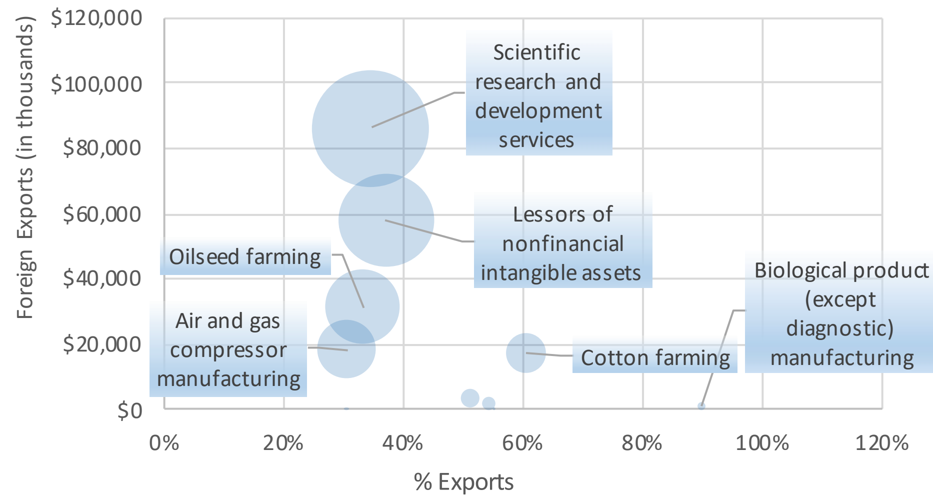

Figure 11. New Orleans-Metairie Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

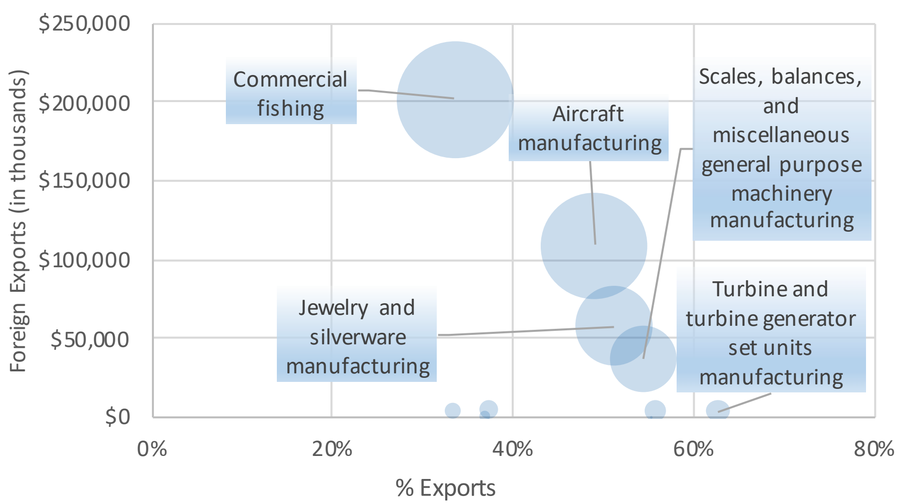

Figure 12. Shreveport-Bossier City Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)

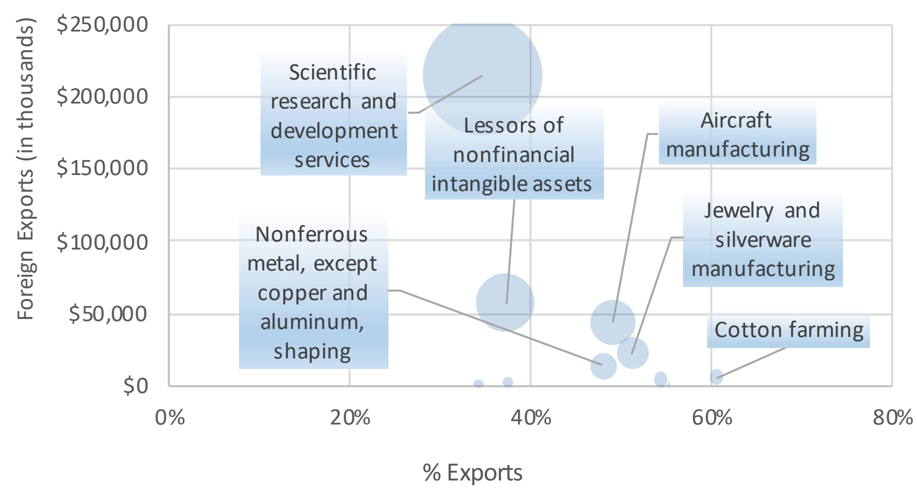

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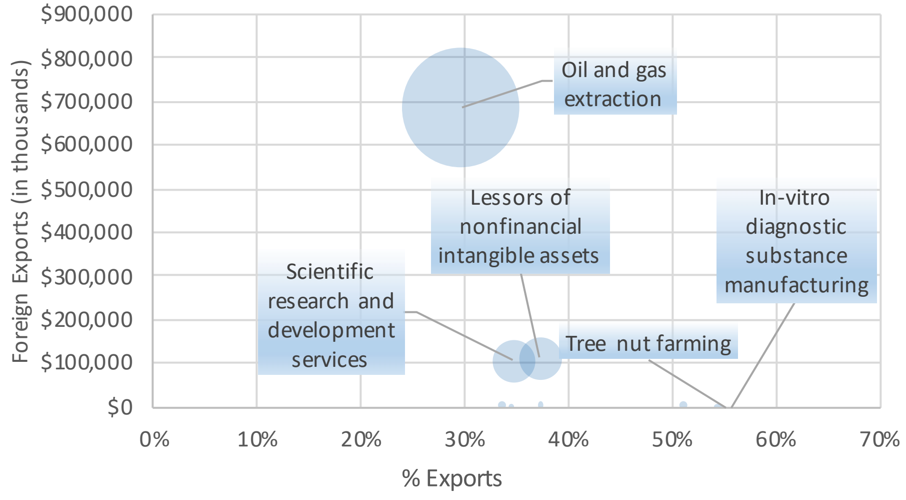
Figure 13. Slidell-Mandeville-Covington Industries by Export Intensity and Foreign Export Value (bubble size represents total industry output)



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June

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 in addition to state and local data.
Links to sources are included.

The June calendar will be revised when dates for additional data are announced.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 QCEW [2025: Q4] JOLTS [Apr] ISM PMI Services [May] Construction Spending [Apr]	2 MSA Employment [Apr] Manufacturing - New Orders [Apr]	3 ISM PMI Services [May]	4 National Employment [May]	5	6
7	8 Wholesale Inventories [Apr]	9 Real Earnings [May] CPI [May] Business Applications [May] Federal Budget [May] NFIB Small Business Optimism Index [May]	10 PPI [May]	11 U. of Michigan's Consumer Confidence [Jun]	12	13
14	15 Import/Export Prices [May] Housing Starts [Jun] Industrial Production [May] NAHB HMI [Jun]	16 Retail & Food Services Sales [May Advance] Pending Home Sales [May]	17	18	19	20
21	22 State Employment [May]	23 The Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index [Jun]	24 Durable Goods [May Advance]	25	26	27
28						