

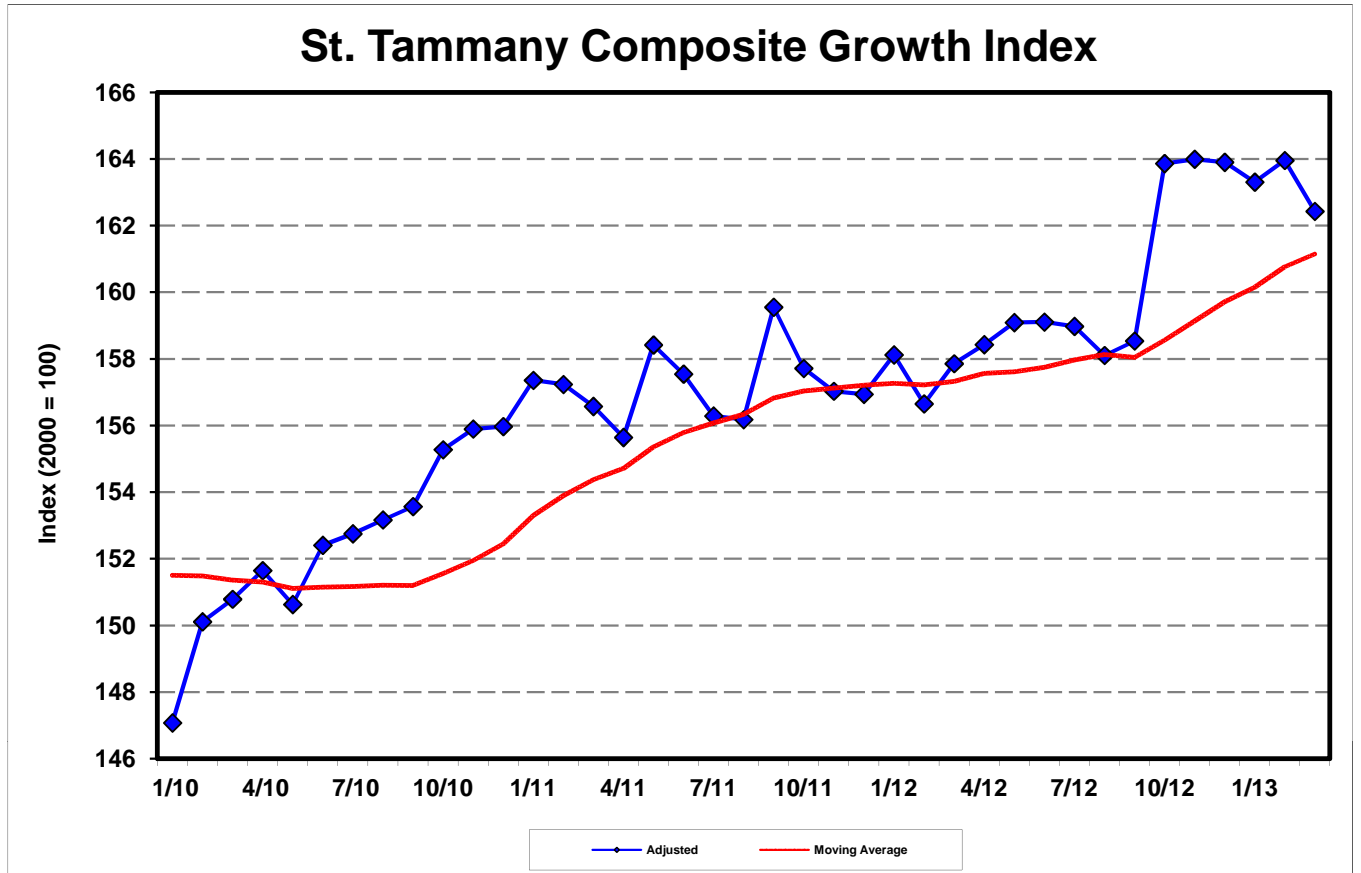
# St. Tammany Economic Growth Index

St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation

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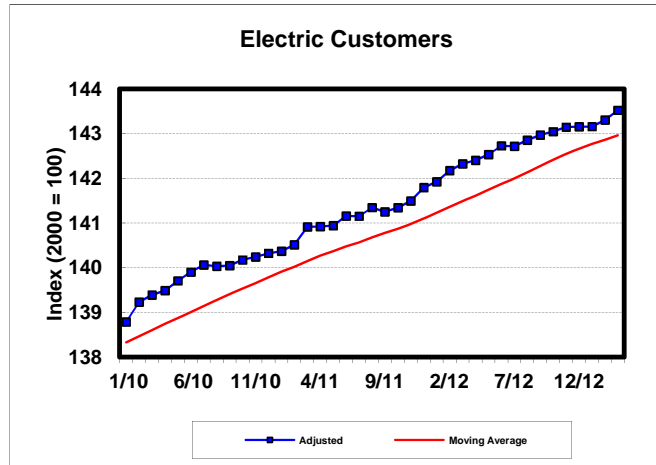
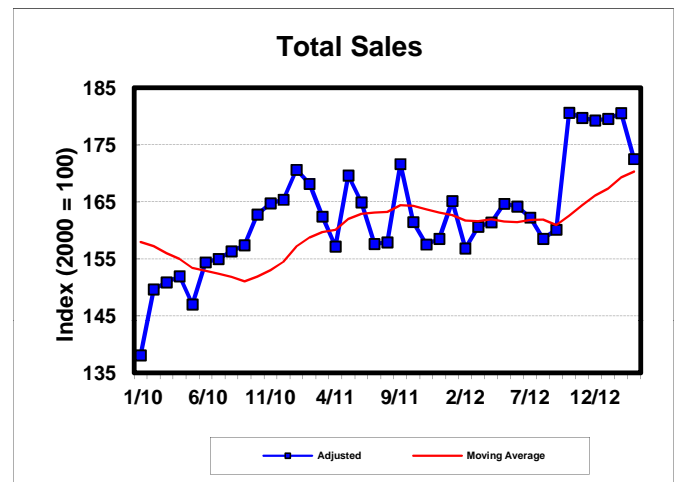
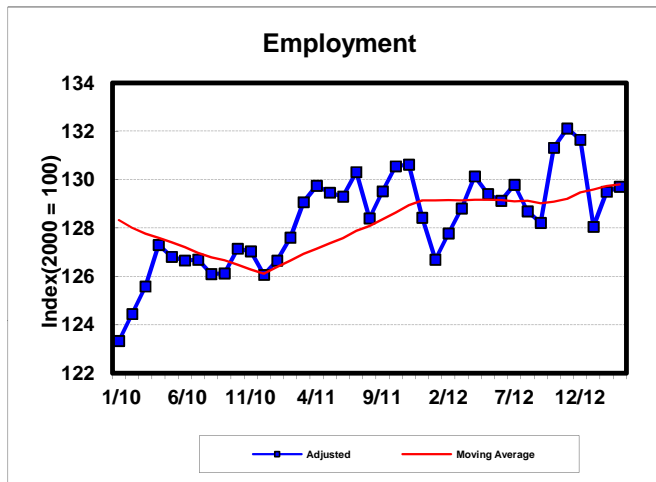
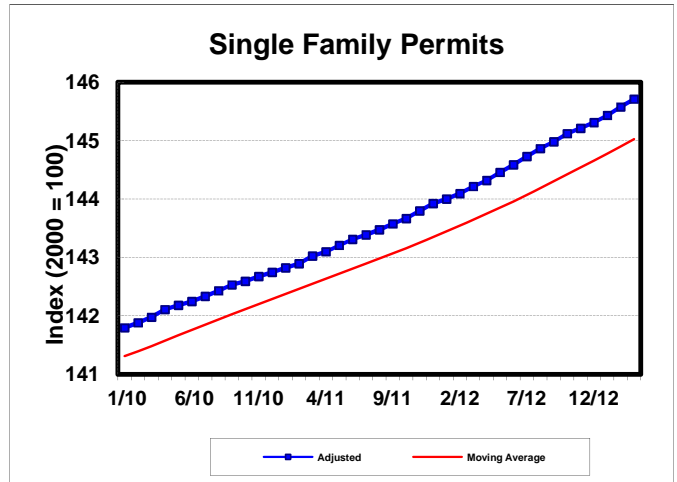
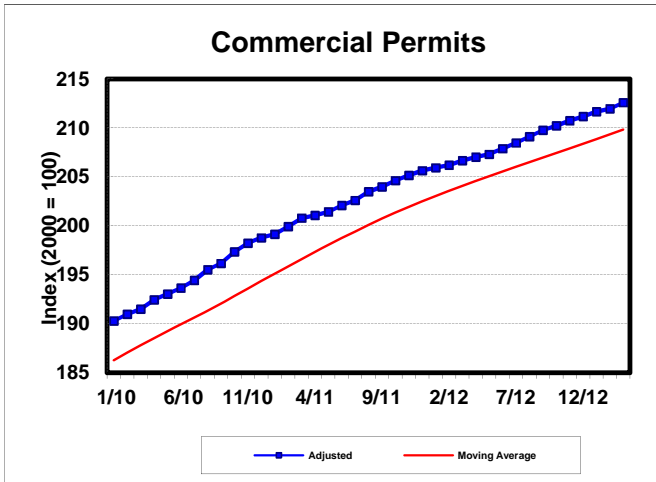
## Notes

The St. Tammany Parish Economic Growth Index is a measure of economic expansion comparing changes in five economic components over time thus, collectively, tracking changes and growth of the St. Tammany economy. Components used to develop the composite economic index include employment, single family building permits, Parish total sales (computed from parish sales tax), electric customers, and commercial building permits. Weighted ratios of each component are totaled to produce a composite index. For a look at the components comprising the composite index, see the back of this page.

## Quarterly Summary

The St. Tammany Parish economy first quarter indexed growth was 3.6% while the 12-month indexed growth was 2.2%. It appears that much of the impetus that pushed 4Q12 sales growth reached into 1Q13. Continued quarterly total growth in 1Q13 was largely supported by total indexed sales growth of 10.4% over 1Q12 total indexed sales. With this report, an adjustment/correction has been made in the recording of commercial indexed building permits and total indexed sales. All five of the indices that make up the composite index moved ahead during the first quarter. First quarter contributors to the composite growth in addition to total sales were commercial building permits, up 2.8%; employment, up 1.0%; single family building permits, up 1.0% and electric customers, up 0.8%. The addition of new commercial building permits in the 1Q13 likely will spawn additional service and retail facilities thus increasing additional sales tax collections. Fluctuating gas prices, especially on the high side, continue to put pressure on and take large chunks out of the household budget in 1Q13. Consumers, nationally, are primarily concerned with economic expectations and more pessimistic about current national economic conditions. This loss of confidence, especially expectations, recalls losses experienced this past December (2012) and January (2013). Results: Consumers continue to be less confident about current and future economic conditions. The St. Tammany Parish economy does not appear to have visible signs which trouble national consumers. 1Q13 stats indicate a strong local economy with the composite index pointing toward continued expansion.

# St. Tammany Economy At A Glance



Sources: St. Tammany Sheriff's Office; St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Washington-St. Tammany Electric Co-op, CLECO, Louisiana Department of Labor, and St. Tammany Parish Tourist and Convention Commission. The ST. TAMMANY ECONOMIC GROWTH INDEX is developed by John C. Borland, CCR, Director of Borland Econometrics and published quarterly by the St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation. Correspondence should be addressed to: 21489 Koop Drive, Suite 7, Mandeville, LA 70471. Telephone: (985) 809-7874. Web: [www.stedf.org](http://www.stedf.org). Copyright 2004. All rights reserved.