

St. Tammany Economic Growth Index

St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation

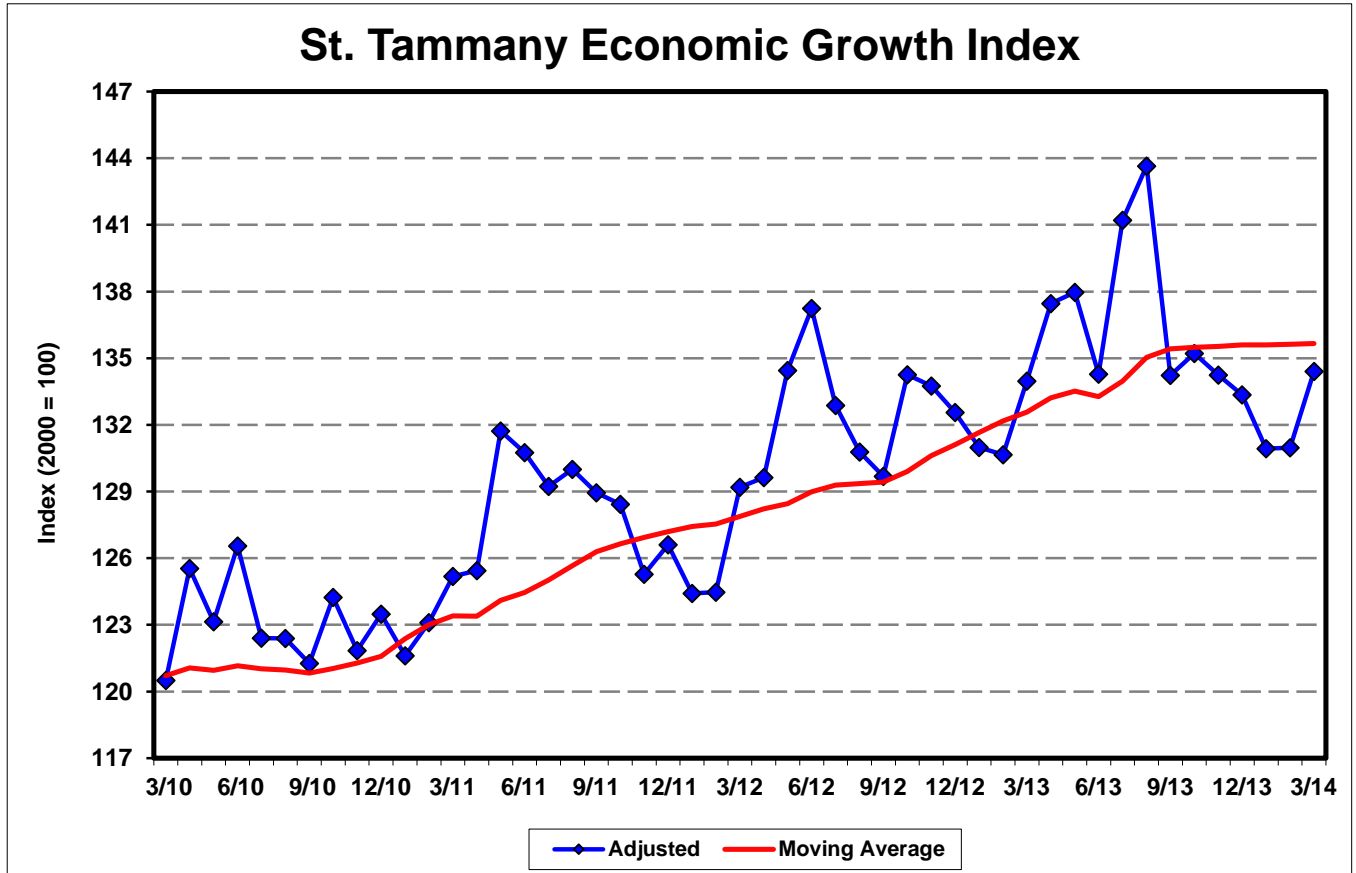
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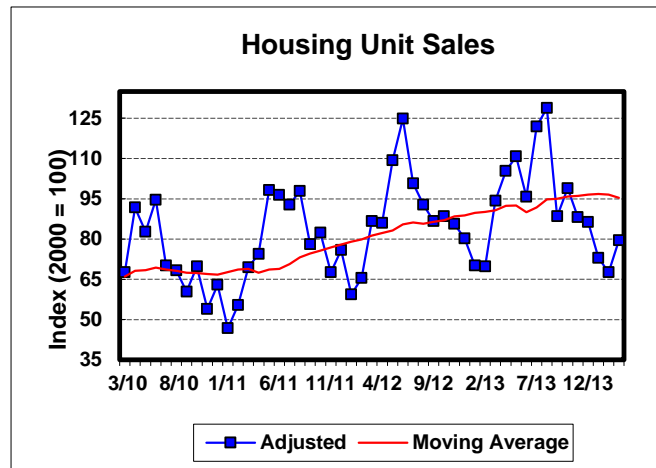
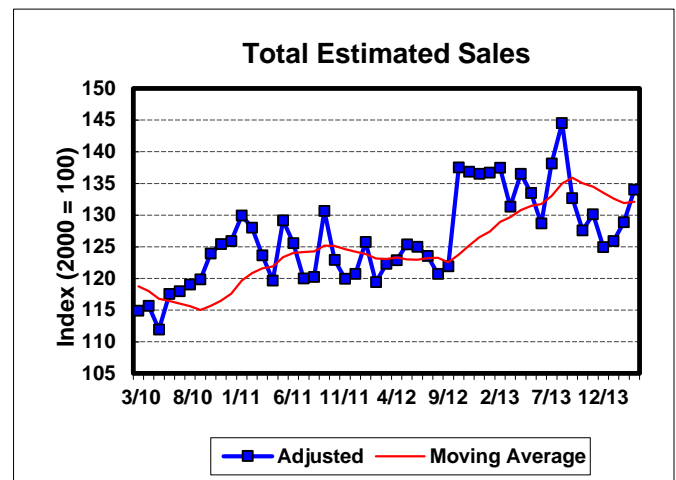
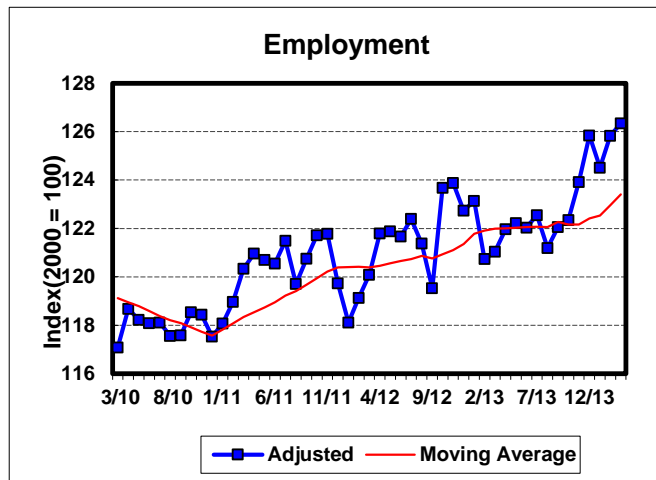
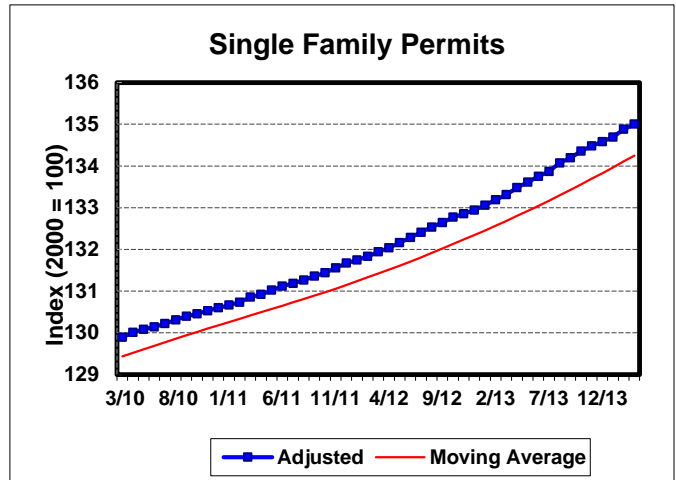
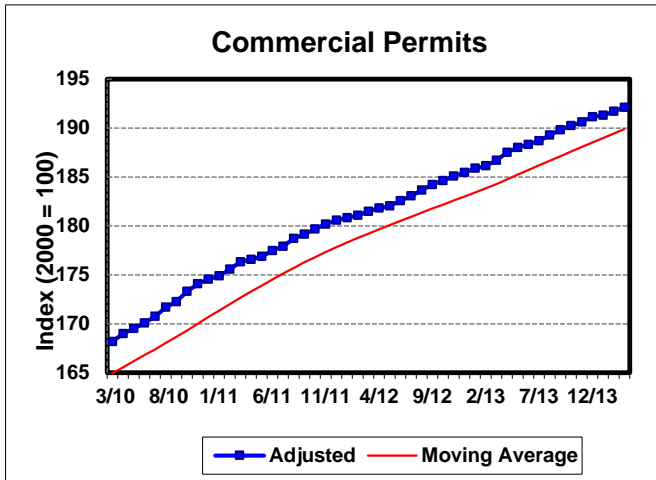
Notes

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), housing unit sales, and commercial building permits. Weighted ratios of each component are totaled to produce a composite index. All items, 1998 = 100. For a look at the components comprising the composite index, see the back of this page.

Quarterly Summary

The relatively slow growth experienced in 4Q13 continued in 1Q14 with a quarterly growth dipping to 0.2%. Breaking down the quarter by months shows the negative growth through January then a modest growth in February and a significant increase in March for which most of the quarter got its positive performance. The indicators which held quarterly growth down were house sales, -14.61% and total sales, -12.14%. The other three indicators making up the composite index had positive results in the first quarter including employment, 3.24%, commercial building permits, 2.93% and single family building permits, 1.26%. All five of the indicators making up the composite index showed positive gains in the most recent 12-month period. Ranked in order of largest gains to least gains were: home sales, 5.12%; commercial building permits, 3.05%; total sales, 1.91%; single family building permits, 1.18% and employment, 1.16%. Most of the 12-month gains were a result of gains attributed to the period prior to 1Q13. The 12-month composite index gain was 2.33% and, here also this gain was attributed to prior gains before 4Q13. Looking at the past two quarter movements, especially 1Q14, there appears to be the start of a rebound taking place in March of 2014. Data for the five indicators in 2Q14 will better tell whether this is the case or not.

St. Tammany Economy At A Glance



Sources: St. Tammany Sheriff's Office; St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Latter & Blum, Realtors through the Gulf South Real Estate information network, 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. Copyright 2004. All rights reserved.