

St. Tammany Economic Growth Index

St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation

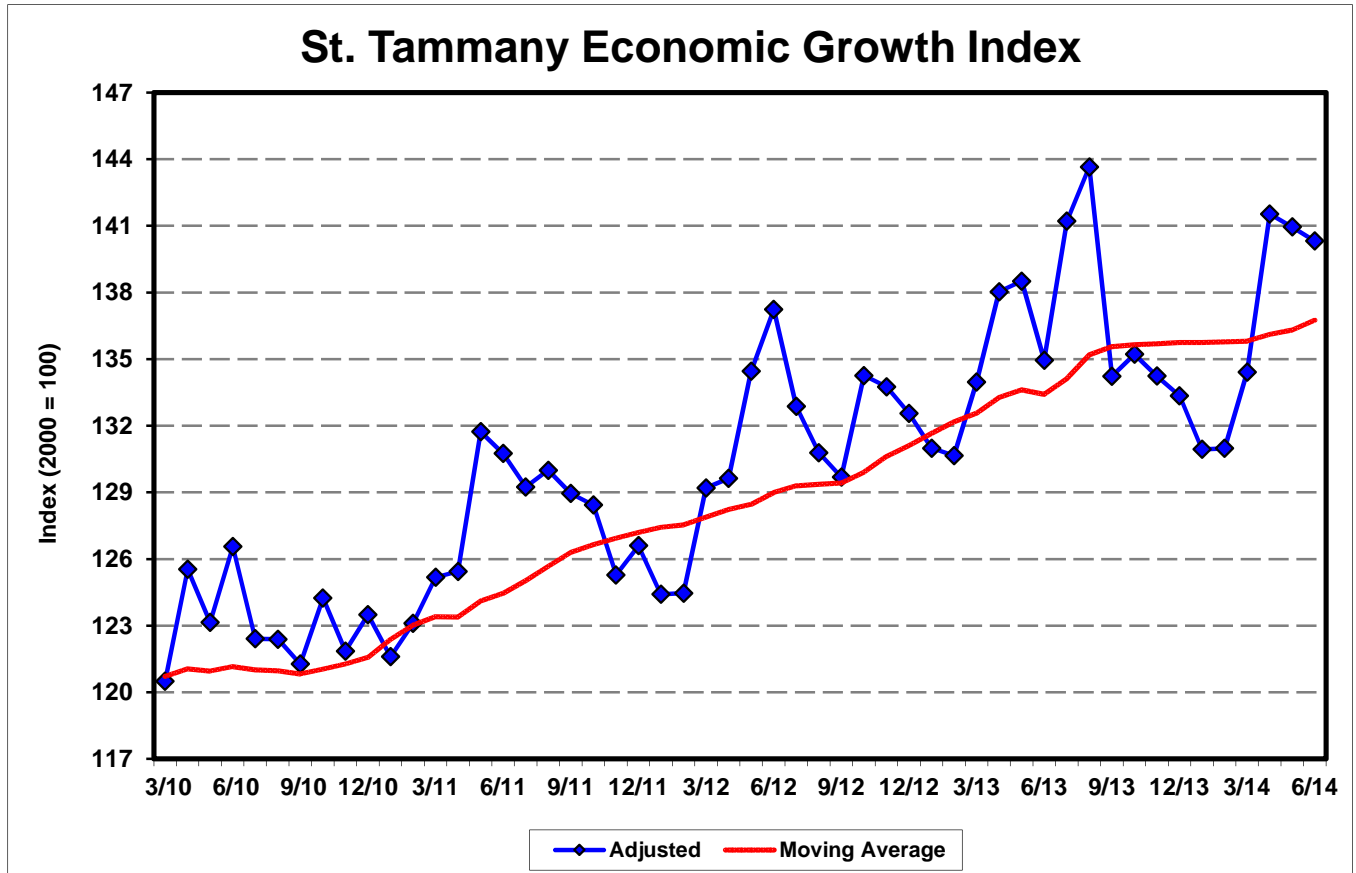
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Second Quarter 2014

Volume 12, Issue 2



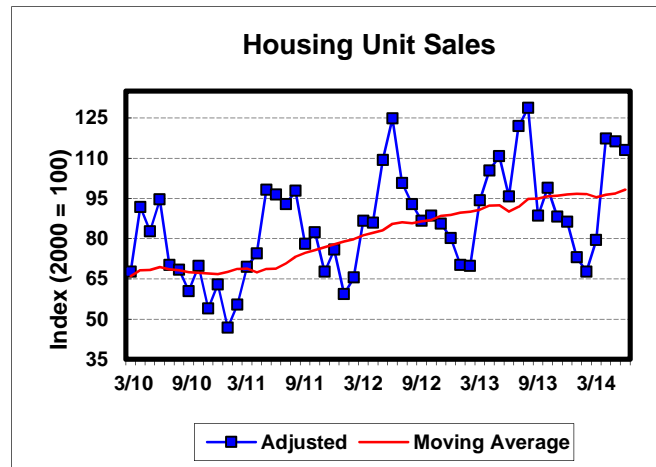
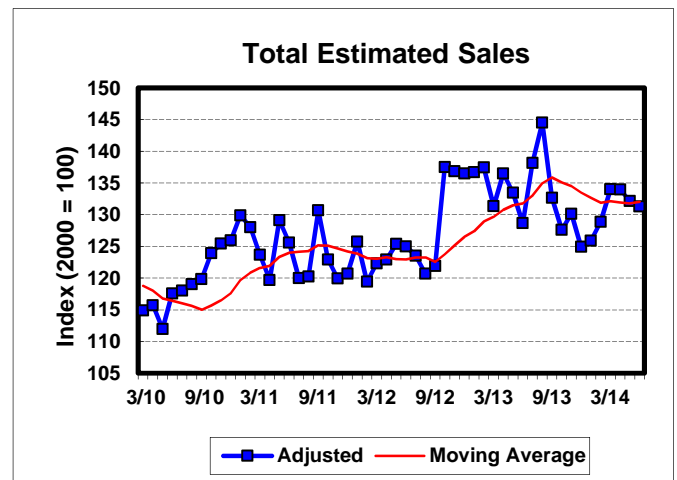
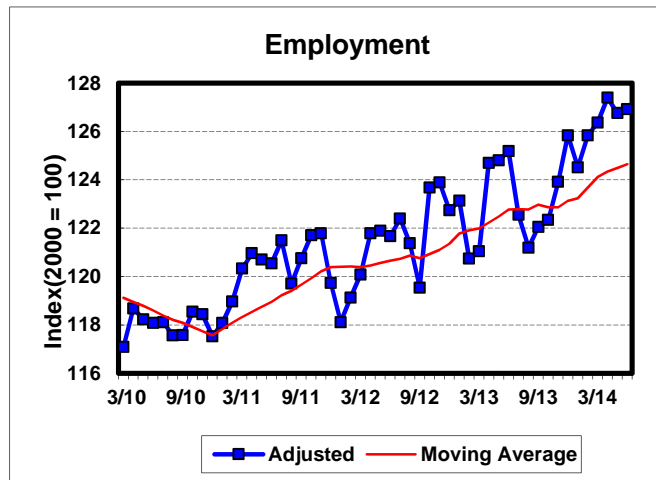
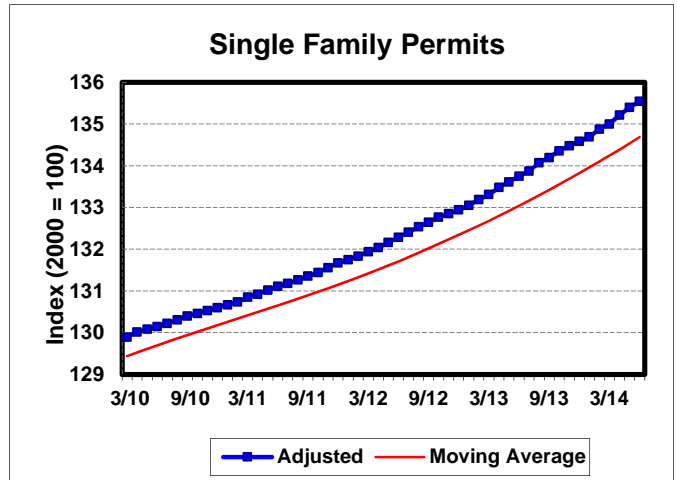
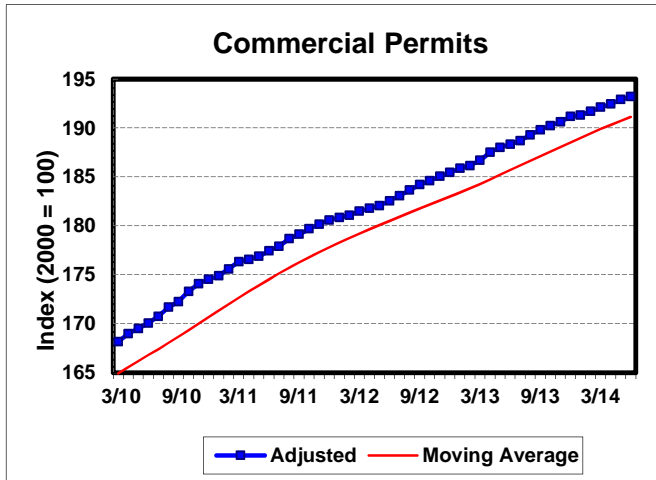
Notes

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 overall near no growth of the St. Tammany economy in 1Q14 took a reverse course in 2Q14 with a quarterly expansion of 2.8% and pushed the 12-month expansion to 2.5%. Four of the five components making up the composite index had quarterly gains including housing sales, 11.4%; commercial building permits, 2.6%; employment, 1.7% and single family building permits, 1.3%. The total sale component recorded a comparison loss of 0.3% during 2Q14. All five of the composite components showed twelve-month gains including housing sales, 9.1%; commercial building permits, 2.9%; employment, 1.5%; single family building permits, 1.2% and total sales, 0.2%. Breaking down monthly quarterly gains begins with April, 2.5%; May, 1.8% and June, 4.0%. There remains resistance on the part of the consumer to resume looser spending as was the case in earlier quarters. Consumers are not all that comfortable with income and job growth in future months, as reported by The Conference Board's report on Consumer Confidence. The current improvement in overall growth in 2Q14 does not necessarily mean the start of accelerated growth over the long haul. To know that sustained improved economic growth in the Parish is on the horizon, will have to wait as future months unfold.

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.