

# Economic Reporter

Promoting Economic Development in Southeast Louisiana

**Fall 2014****Vol. 10 · No. 3****NATIONAL**

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- St. Tammany
- Tangipahoa
- Washington

**SOUTHEASTERN**

- Southeastern forms partnership with fabrication firm

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**NATIONAL****U.S. Economy****Dr. A. M. M. Jamal**

Professor of Marketing and Supply Chain Management  
 Southeastern Louisiana University

U. S. real gross domestic product grew at a 4.2 percent annual rate during the second quarter of 2014 and was 2.5 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2013.

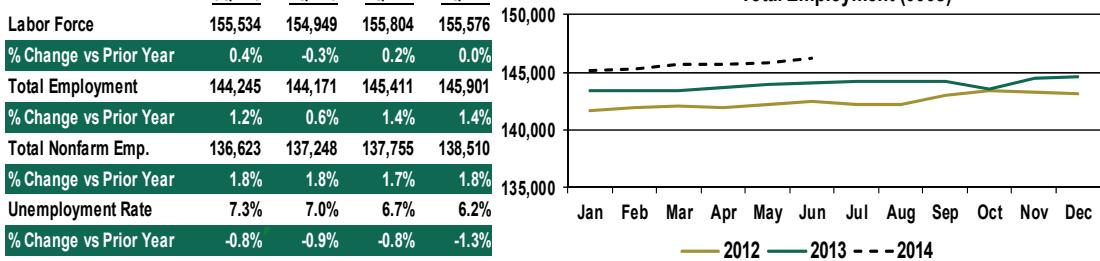
Total civilian employment for 2Q2014 rose 1.4 percent compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, while the workforce was unchanged. This helped the unemployment rate to drop from 7.5 percent to 6.2 percent.

A group of professional economists surveyed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia projects the U.S. economy to grow 2.1, 3.1, 2.9, and 2.8 percent in 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 respectively.

An alternative set of forecasts by Wells Fargo Bank indicates gains of 2.1, 3.0, and 3.1 percent for 2014, 2015, and 2016.

**EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted)****UNITED STATES (Numbers in Thousands)**

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Labor Force	155,693	155,435	155,473	154,625	155,284	154,937	155,460	155,724	156,227	155,421	155,613	155,694
% Change vs Prior Year	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	-0.6%	0.0%	-0.4%	-0.2%	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%
Total Employment	144,285	144,179	144,270	143,485	144,443	144,586	145,224	145,266	145,742	145,669	145,814	146,221
% Change vs Prior Year	1.4%	1.4%	0.9%	0.1%	0.8%	1.0%	1.3%	1.3%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	136,434	136,636	136,800	137,037	137,311	137,395	137,539	137,761	137,964	138,268	138,497	138,764
% Change vs Prior Year	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	7.2%	7.2%	7.2%	7.0%	6.7%	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%	6.3%	6.3%	6.1%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.9%	-0.8%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.8%	-1.2%	-1.3%	-1.0%	-0.8%	-1.2%	-1.2%	-1.5%

**Total Employment (000s)**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Economic Reporter

## STATE

### Louisiana Economy

Dr. A. M. M. Jamal

Professor of Marketing and Supply Chain Management

Total state employment for the second quarter of 2014 rose 0.4 percent from the previous quarter and was 0.5 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2013.

The unemployment rate for the second quarter was 4.8 percent, compared to 6.4 percent in 2Q2013. The state unemployment rate was significantly below the 6.2 percent national rate.

(State employment and unemployment data were recently re-benchmarked, so the data shown in this newsletter for some prior quarters may not be consistent with those published in previous reports.)

State sales tax collections for the second quarter rose 12.4 percent compared to the prior quarter and were 4.5 percent higher than for the second quarter of 2013. On a year-over-year basis, the

rise is a continuation of the trend noted during recent quarters.

Seasonally-adjusted state personal income increased 1.5 percent (\$3.0 billion) in the second quarter of 2014, the 27th largest percentage increase in the nation. Net earnings were up \$1.8 billion, dividends, interest and rents increased \$523 million, and personal transfer receipts increased by \$659 million.

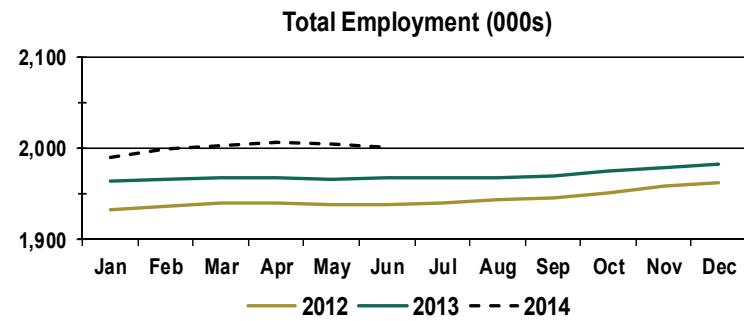
Farm earnings were up \$272 million over 1Q2014. Non-farm industries contributing the most growth in earnings were "Manufacturing" (+\$196 million), "Professional, scientific, and technical services" (+\$194 million), "Health care and social assistance" (+\$184 million), and "Construction" (+\$182 million).

### EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted)

#### LOUISIANA (Numbers in Thousands)

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	2,101	2,099	2,097	2,098	2,095	2,095	2,093	2,094	2,096	2,102	2,108	2,107
% Change vs Prior Year	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0.1%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Total Employment	1,967	1,969	1,970	1,976	1,978	1,983	1,990	1,999	2,003	2,007	2,004	2,002
% Change vs Prior Year	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	1.9%	1.7%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,950	1,953	1,955	1,964	1,963	1,963	1,953	1,955	1,956	1,960	1,968	1,974
% Change vs Prior Year	1.3%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%	1.5%	1.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.2%	6.0%	5.8%	5.6%	5.4%	4.9%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.9%	5.0%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.8%	-1.4%	-1.8%	-1.9%	-1.9%	-1.5%	-1.4%

	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14
Labor Force	2,099	2,096	2,094	2,105
% Change vs Prior Year	1.1%	0.5%	-0.2%	0.2%
Total Employment	1,969	1,979	1,997	2,004
% Change vs Prior Year	1.3%	1.1%	1.6%	1.9%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,952	1,964	1,954	1,967
% Change vs Prior Year	1.5%	1.6%	0.6%	0.9%
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	5.6%	4.6%	4.8%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.2%	-0.6%	-0.2%	-1.6%



Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, Labor Market Statistics

## REGIONAL

### Northshore Employment

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Total employment in the Northshore Region (the five parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington) was 1.5 percent higher in the second quarter of 2014 compared to 1Q2014, and also rose 1.5 percent (3,720 jobs) compared to 2Q2013.

The total civilian work force was 2.1 percent higher than the previous quarter and 0.1 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2013.

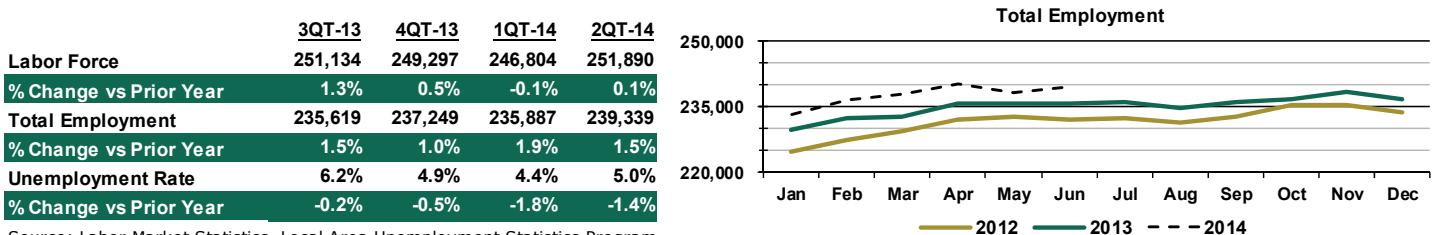
The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2014 was 5.0 percent, compared to 4.4 percent in the previous quarter and 6.3 percent during the second quarter of 2013.

(Note: All regional and parish employment analyses are based on unadjusted employment data. Seasonally-adjusted data are not available at the parish level.)

#### EMPLOYMENT (Not seasonally adjusted)

##### NORTHSORE REGION

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	252,597	250,757	250,047	250,336	250,205	247,350	245,266	246,465	248,682	250,679	251,357	253,634
% Change vs Prior Year	1.1%	1.4%	1.3%	0.4%	1.1%	0.1%	-0.7%	-0.1%	0.6%	0.4%	0.1%	-0.3%
Total Employment	235,977	234,896	235,984	236,648	238,481	236,619	233,179	236,673	237,810	240,168	238,403	239,446
% Change vs Prior Year	1.5%	1.6%	1.4%	0.5%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	1.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.1%	1.5%
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.3%	5.6%	5.5%	4.8%	4.5%	4.9%	4.0%	4.4%	4.2%	5.2%	5.6%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.4%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-1.1%	-2.1%	-1.9%	-1.5%	-1.4%	-1.0%	-1.7%



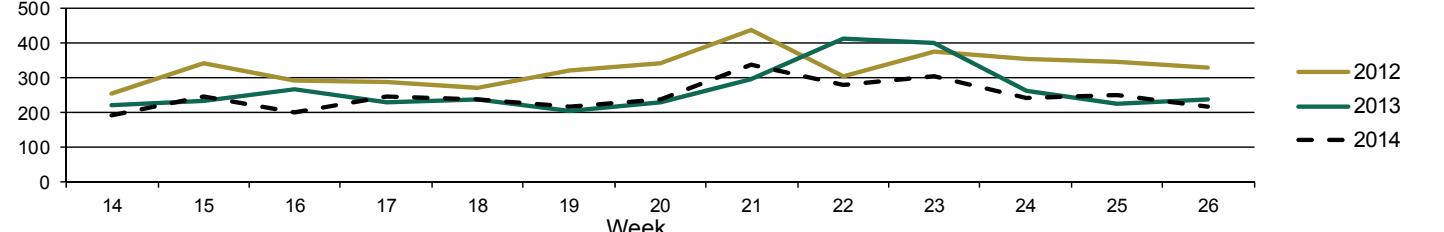
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

#### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

##### Northshore Region

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	195	247	203	247	239	217	237	338	279	304	243	253	217
Weeks Claimed	1,833	1,799	1,802	1,785	1,836	1,814	1,777	1,814	1,986	2,061	2,129	2,152	2,069

##### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

# Economic Reporter

## Estimated Retail Sales in the Northshore Region

The 2Q2014 estimated value of retail sales for the region rose 8.4 percent from the previous quarter and was 5.3 percent higher than for the second quarter of 2013.

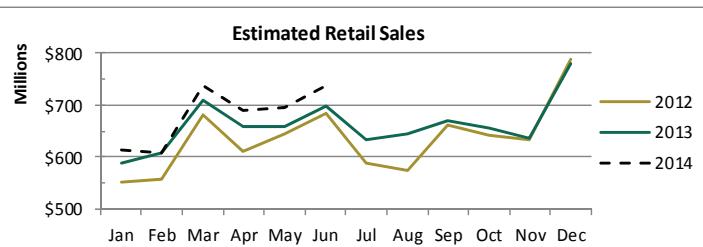
All the parishes except St. Helena saw gains in comparison to the second quarter of 2013.

### ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

#### NORTHSORE REGION

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$634.4	\$643.6	\$670.6	\$655.0	\$635.5	\$779.4	\$613.4	\$608.8	\$737.2	\$690.8	\$695.3	\$738.3
% Change vs Prior Month	-9.3%	1.5%	4.2%	-2.3%	-3.0%	22.6%	-21.3%	-0.7%	21.1%	-6.3%	0.7%	6.2%
% Change vs. Prior Year	7.9%	12.2%	1.6%	2.2%	0.6%	-1.1%	4.2%	0.3%	4.1%	5.0%	5.5%	5.6%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$649.5	\$690.0	\$653.1	\$708.1								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-3.4%	6.2%	-5.3%	8.4%								
% Change vs Prior Year	7.0%	0.5%	2.9%	5.3%								

Sources: Livingston Parish School Board - Sales and Use Tax Division  
 St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office  
 St. Tammany Parish Sales and Use Tax Department  
 Tangipahoa Parish School Board - Sales and Use Tax Division  
 Washington Parish Sheriff's Office - Sales and Use Tax Department



## Residential Building Permits in the Northshore Region

Building permits for residential units in the region for the second quarter of 2014 rose 3.4 percent over the prior quarter but declined 11.2 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013, reflecting a mixed outlook for construction in the region.

On a year over year basis, only St. Helena and St. Tammany reported gains in building permits.

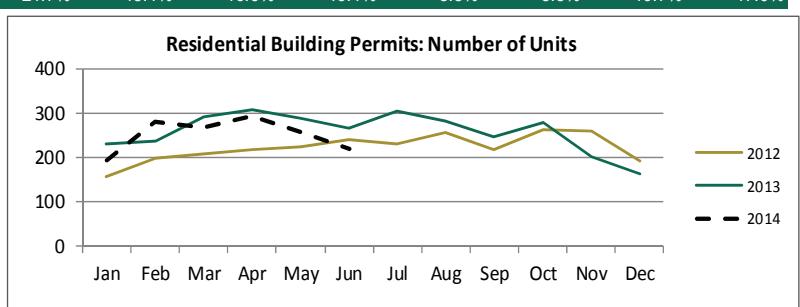
It should be noted that the number of units in unincorporated St. Tammany and Livingston parishes and all of Washington Parish are based on data (or estimates) provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

#### NORTHSORE REGION

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Total Permits	295	281	233	251	193	149	184	267	258	292	251	220
% Change vs Prior Year	34.1%	14.2%	12.0%	-1.6%	-10.2%	-17.7%	-16.7%	19.2%	-7.5%	-2.0%	-10.0%	-14.7%
Total Units	303	281	245	279	202	163	194	281	266	292	258	220
% Change vs Prior Year	31.2%	9.8%	11.9%	5.7%	-21.7%	-15.1%	-16.0%	19.1%	-8.3%	-5.5%	-10.7%	-17.0%

	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>
Total Permits	809	593	709	763
% Change vs Prior Year	20.0%	-8.9%	-2.1%	-8.6%
Total Units	829	644	741	770
% Change vs Prior Year	17.4%	-9.8%	-2.1%	-10.8%



Sources: Livingston Parish -- Town of Albany, City of Denham Springs, Town of Livingston, Town of Walker, <http://censtats.census.gov>  
 St. Helena Parish -- St. Helena Parish Permit Office and <http://censtats.census.gov> (estimates w/ imputation)

Washington Parish -- <http://censtats.census.gov>

St. Tammany Parish -- St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Town of Abita Springs, Village of Folsom, Town of Madisonville, City of Mandeville, Town of Pearl River, City of Slidell, <http://censtats.census.gov>  
 Tangipahoa Parish -- Tangipahoa Parish Permit Office, City of Hammond, City of Ponchatoula, <http://censtats.census.gov>

## Where do Northshore residents buy their vehicles?

Herb Holloway  
Research Economist

The Business Research Center (BRC) recently began purchasing Dominion Cross-Sell new vehicle sales data for the Northshore region. The data includes all new vehicles registered to residents of the Northshore and all registrations of new vehicles sold by car dealers in the five Northshore parishes (Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington). There are currently no new car dealers in St. Helena Parish, so all sales were by dealers in the other four parishes.

August 2014 was the first month for which complete data was obtained by the BRC. Data on the Northshore new car market will be maintained and analyzed from that point forward, but we will discuss the August data alone in this volume as an example of the types of analyses to come.

Northshore residents in August 2014 registered 2,233 new vehicles, of which 1,175 (52.6 percent) were purchased from Northshore dealers and 1,058 (47.4 percent) from dealers outside of the five Northshore parishes.

The tables below detail the number and percentage of vehicles purchased by residents in each Northshore parish in August 2014 by the location where purchased.

Excepting St. Helena Parish (where there are no dealers), the range in percentage of vehicles bought "in-parish" ranged from 5.7 percent in Washington Parish to 60.2 percent in St. Tammany.

NUMBER	Location where Purchased*							Totals
	Parish of Buyer	Livingston	St. Helena	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa	Washington	Other	
Livingston		72			10	53		464 599
St. Helena						5		12 17
St. Tammany				644	48		378	1,070
Tangipahoa		1			62	212		150 425
Washington		2			53	6	7	54 122
Northshore		75	0	769	324	7	1,058	2,233

PERCENTAGE	Location where Purchased*							Totals
	Parish of Buyer	Livingston	St. Helena	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa	Washington	Other	
Livingston		<b>12.0%</b>	0.0%		1.7%	8.8%	0.0%	77.5% 100.0%
St. Helena		0.0%	<b>0.0%</b>		0.0%	29.4%	0.0%	70.6% 100.0%
St. Tammany		0.0%	0.0%		<b>60.2%</b>	4.5%	0.0%	35.3% 100.0%
Tangipahoa		0.2%	0.0%		14.6%	<b>49.9%</b>	0.0%	35.3% 100.0%
Washington		1.6%	0.0%		43.4%	4.9%	<b>5.7%</b>	44.3% 100.0%
Northshore		3.4%	0.0%		34.4%	14.5%	0.3%	47.4% 100.0%

\*Source: Dominion Cross-Sale Report (based on data from the Louisiana Department of Public Safety).

# Economic Reporter

## LOCAL

### Livingston Parish

Livingston Parish employment rose 2.0 percent over the prior quarter and 2.7 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013.

The unemployment rate of 4.4 percent was higher than the 4.0 percent in the prior quarter but less than the 5.7 percent of a year ago.

Initial unemployment claims in 2Q2014 were down 9.6 percent from 2Q2013, and continuing weeks claimed were down 12.3 percent.

The value of taxable sales rose 6.9 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013, a higher growth rate than that of the region (5.3 percent).

Residential home sales totaled 468 in 2Q2014, a 21.9 percent increase over the 384 sold in 2Q2013.

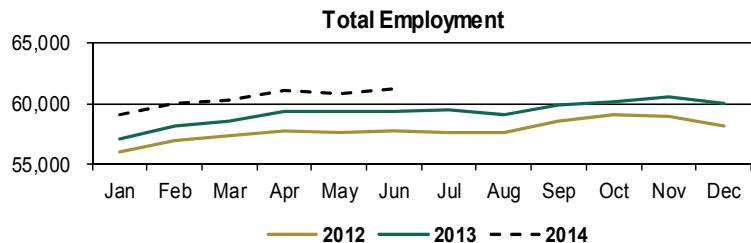
Residential foreclosure actions continued to trend downward. The 166 total foreclosure actions in 2Q2014 were 38.7 percent below the 271 of 2Q2013.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	63,225	62,704	63,040	63,282	63,292	62,489	61,963	62,160	62,822	63,495	63,676	64,311
% Change vs Prior Year	2.4%	2.2%	1.9%	1.5%	2.5%	1.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	1.3%
Total Employment	59,507	59,132	59,844	60,190	60,516	59,951	59,135	59,943	60,323	61,100	60,740	61,132
% Change vs Prior Year	3.2%	2.5%	2.2%	1.8%	2.7%	3.1%	3.5%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%	2.2%	2.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	5.7%	5.1%	4.9%	4.4%	4.1%	4.6%	3.6%	4.0%	3.8%	4.6%	4.9%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.8%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.2%	-1.3%	-2.1%	-1.9%	-1.5%	-1.4%	-0.9%	-1.5%

	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14
Labor Force	62,990	63,021	62,315	63,827
% Change vs Prior Year	2.1%	1.9%	1.2%	1.4%
Total Employment	59,494	60,219	59,800	60,991
% Change vs Prior Year	2.6%	2.6%	3.2%	2.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	4.4%	4.0%	4.4%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.5%	-0.6%	-1.8%	-1.3%



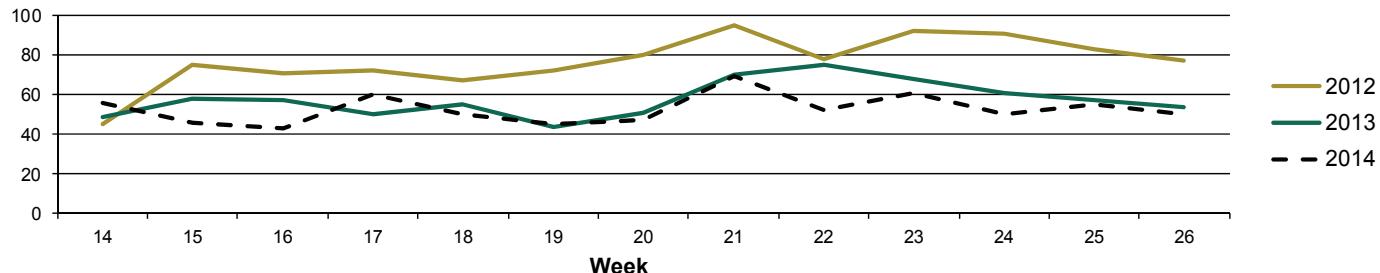
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	56	46	43	60	50	45	47	69	52	61	50	55	50
Weeks Claimed	391	396	387	401	405	392	392	377	399	416	426	436	405

#### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



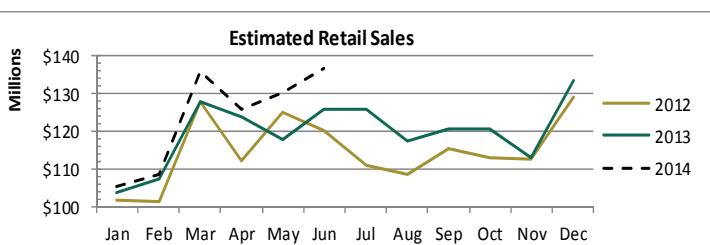
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

## Livingston Parish—continued

### Estimated Retail Sales

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$125.92	\$117.68	\$120.54	\$120.86	\$112.91	\$133.57	\$105.28	\$108.47	\$135.95	\$126.10	\$130.14	\$136.68
% Change vs Prior Month	0.0%	-6.5%	2.4%	0.3%	-6.6%	18.3%	-21.2%	3.0%	25.3%	-7.2%	3.2%	5.0%
% Change vs. Prior Year	13.5%	8.4%	4.3%	6.7%	0.1%	3.6%	1.5%	0.8%	6.3%	1.8%	10.4%	8.5%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$121.38	\$122.45	\$116.57	\$130.97								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-1.0%	0.9%	-4.8%	12.4%								
% Change vs Prior Year	8.7%	3.5%	3.1%	6.9%								

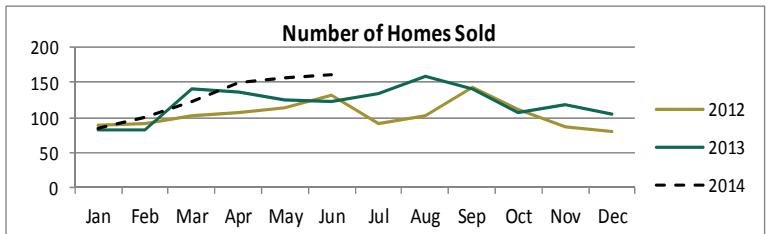


Source: Livingston Parish School Board - Sales and Use Tax Division

### RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH

	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	<u>Sep-13</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Jun-14</u>
Number of Homes Sold	134	158	140	107	119	104	84	100	123	150	157	161
% Change vs Prior Year	45.7%	54.9%	-2.1%	-3.6%	38.4%	30.0%	1.2%	20.5%	-12.1%	9.5%	25.6%	32.0%
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	n/a											
% Change vs Prior Year	n/a											
Median Selling Price	\$156,000	\$148,750	\$153,464	\$145,000	\$150,000	\$159,450	\$143,350	\$153,250	\$155,133	\$150,555	\$159,900	\$164,370
% Change vs Prior Year	9.7%	-2.7%	2.3%	-1.3%	-2.6%	11.8%	-3.0%	-1.1%	3.2%	-5.3%	11.1%	5.9%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Number of Homes Sold	432	330	307	468								
% Change vs Prior Year	28.2%	19.1%	0.3%	21.9%								
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
% Change vs Prior Year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
Average Selling Price	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
% Change vs Prior Year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								

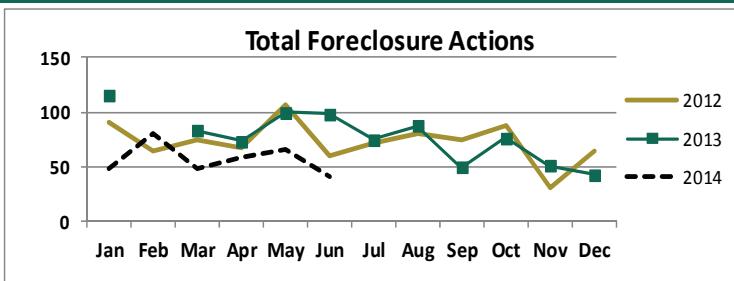


Source: Based on information from the Greater Baton Rouge Association of REALTORS®

### RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE ACTIVITIES

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH

	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	<u>Sep-13</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Jun-14</u>
Default Notices	24	28	11	18	12	15	11	22	19	26	24	29
Auction Notices	39	23	23	24	25	8	17	41	16	17	14	-
Bank Repossessions	12	36	15	34	14	20	20	17	13	16	28	12
Total Foreclosure Actions	75	87	49	76	51	43	48	80	48	59	66	41
% Change vs Prior Year	5.6%	8.8%	-33.8%	-12.6%	70.0%	-32.8%	-58.3%	n/a	-42.2%	-19.2%	-34.0%	-58.2%



Source: RealtyTrac© (Feb. 2013 data not available)

# Economic Reporter

## St. Helena Parish

Employment in St. Helena Parish in the second quarter of 2014 rose 2.7 percent compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

The labor force declined 0.4 percent, helping the unemployment rate to decline to 7.7 percent from the 10.5 percent of a year ago.

Initial unemployment claims were down 12.7 percent compared to 2Q2013, and weeks of continu-

ing claims were down 27.0 percent.

The estimated value of taxable sales fell 1.5 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013, in contrast to gains for the rest of the region.

Building permits for residential units rose 40 percent from the prior quarter and were 75 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2013.

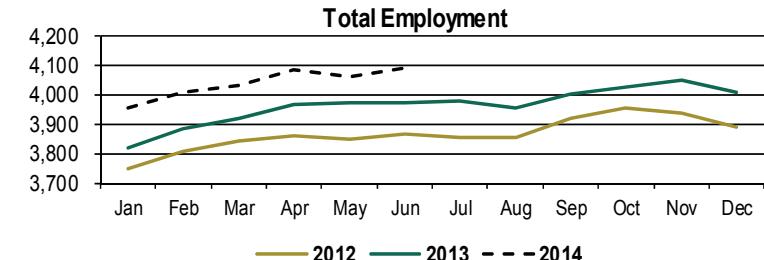
### EMPLOYMENT

#### ST. HELENA PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	4,539	4,475	4,455	4,428	4,402	4,355	4,287	4,271	4,314	4,359	4,400	4,497
% Change vs Prior Year	-9.6%	-9.5%	-7.8%	-8.4%	-6.3%	-7.5%	-0.9%	-1.1%	-7.3%	-6.3%	-7.8%	-10.0%
Total Employment	3,979	3,954	4,001	4,025	4,046	4,009	3,954	4,008	4,033	4,085	4,061	4,088
% Change vs Prior Year	3.2%	2.5%	2.2%	1.8%	2.7%	3.1%	3.5%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%	2.2%	2.9%
Unemployment Rate	12.3%	11.6%	10.2%	9.1%	8.1%	7.9%	7.8%	6.2%	6.5%	6.3%	7.7%	9.1%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.5%	-0.9%	-0.6%	-2.4%	-3.9%	-3.8%	-3.5%	-2.8%	-2.1%	-3.5%

	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14
Labor Force	4,490	4,395	4,291	4,419
% Change vs Prior Year	2.7%	1.1%	-0.9%	-0.4%
Total Employment	3,978	4,027	3,998	4,078
% Change vs Prior Year	2.6%	2.6%	3.2%	2.7%
Unemployment Rate	11.4%	8.4%	6.8%	7.7%
% Change vs Prior Year	0.1%	-1.3%	-3.7%	-2.8%

Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

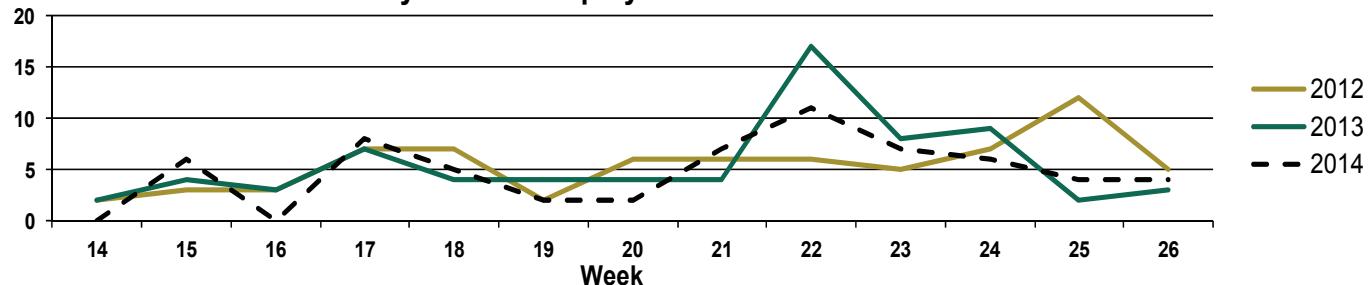


### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

#### ST. HELENA PARISH

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	0	6	0	8	5	2	2	7	11	7	6	4	4
Weeks Claimed	25	25	26	23	28	31	27	27	30	38	41	44	43

#### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

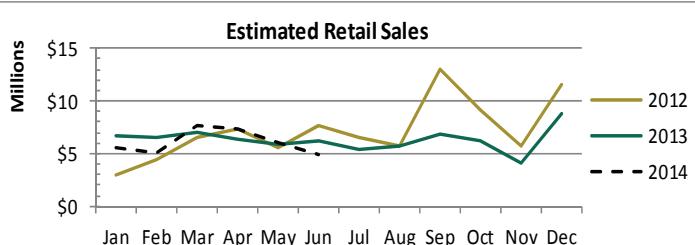
## St. Helena Parish—continued

### Estimated Retail Sales

#### ST. HELENA PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$5.43	\$5.66	\$6.80	\$6.24	\$4.17	\$8.81	\$5.50	\$5.07	\$7.73	\$7.37	\$5.97	\$4.90
% Change vs Prior Month	-12.5%	4.1%	20.3%	-8.3%	-33.2%	111.3%	-37.5%	-7.9%	52.6%	-4.7%	-19.1%	-17.9%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-17.3%	-2.0%	-47.9%	-31.2%	-27.3%	-23.8%	-17.5%	-23.1%	11.2%	15.8%	0.6%	-21.1%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$5.96	\$6.41	\$6.10	\$6.08								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-3.3%	7.4%	-4.8%	-0.3%								
% Change vs Prior Year	-29.6%	-27.1%	-9.4%	-1.5%								

Source: St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office



### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

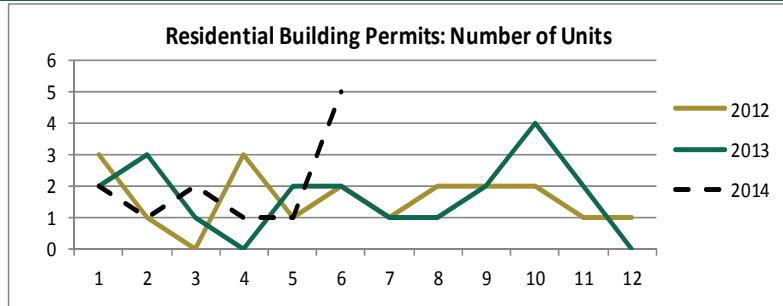
#### ST. HELENA PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Total Permits	1	1	2	4	2	-	2	1	2	1	1	5
% Change vs Prior Year	0.0%	-50.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	-66.7%	100.0%	0.0%	-50.0%	150.0%
Total Units	1	1	2	4	2	-	2	1	2	1	1	5
% Change vs Prior Year	0.0%	-50.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	-66.7%	100.0%	0.0%	-50.0%	150.0%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Total Permits	4	6	5	7								
% Change vs Prior Year	-20.0%	50.0%	-16.7%	75.0%								
Total Units	4	6	5	7								
% Change vs Prior Year	-20.0%	50.0%	-16.7%	75.0%								

Sources: 2008-2010 - <http://censtats.census.gov> (estimates with imputation)

2011-2013 - St. Helena Parish Police Jury: Building Permit Department

2014 - First quarter data N/A

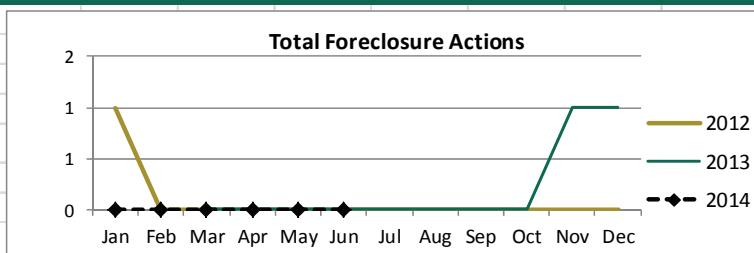


### RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE ACTIVITIES

#### ST. HELENA PARISH

	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	<u>Sep-13</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Jun-14</u>
Default Notices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Auction Notices	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Repossessions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Foreclosure Action	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
% Change vs Prior Year	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Default Notices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Auction Notices	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Repossessions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Foreclosure Action	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% Change vs Prior Year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								

Source: RealtyTrac® (Feb. 2013 data not available)



# Economic Reporter

## St. Tammany Parish

Total employment in St. Tammany Parish in the second quarter of 2014 rose 1.8 percent compared to a year ago, exceeding the average increase for the region (1.5 percent).

The workforce increased 0.6 percent and the unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent, down from 5.5 percent in 2Q2013.

Initial unemployment claims were up 1.9 percent compared to 2Q2013, while continuing weeks claimed were down 2.9 percent.

The value of taxable retail sales rose 3.8 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013, trailing the 5.3 percent gain for the region.

Building permits for residential units rose 33.9 percent over the previous quarter and were 20.6 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2013.

Home sales were up 6.7 percent over 2Q2013, but the average selling price declined by 3.8 percent, resulting in an increase in volume of 2.7 percent.

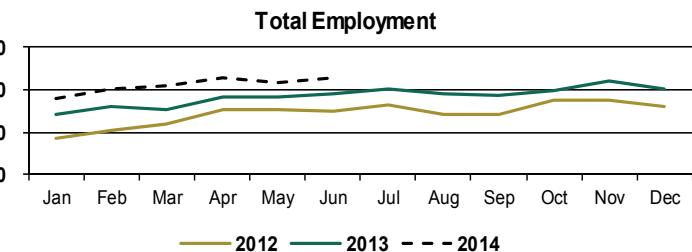
### EMPLOYMENT

#### ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	116,590	115,811	114,756	115,446	115,866	114,402	113,724	114,021	114,974	115,761	116,219	116,988
% Change vs Prior Year	1.6%	2.3%	2.1%	1.1%	2.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.4%	1.4%	0.9%	0.7%	0.1%
Total Employment	110,063	109,578	109,341	109,958	111,042	110,109	108,950	110,102	110,569	111,472	110,913	111,349
% Change vs Prior Year	1.7%	2.3%	2.1%	1.1%	2.1%	1.9%	1.8%	2.0%	2.6%	2.2%	1.6%	1.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	5.4%	4.7%	4.8%	4.2%	3.8%	4.2%	3.4%	3.8%	3.7%	4.6%	4.8%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.9%	-1.7%	-1.5%	-1.1%	-1.2%	-0.8%	-1.5%

	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14	
Labor Force	115,719	115,238	114,240	116,323	
% Change vs Prior Year	2.0%	1.4%	0.6%	0.6%	
Total Employment	109,661	110,370	109,874	111,245	
% Change vs Prior Year	2.0%	1.7%	2.1%	1.8%	
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	4.2%	3.8%	4.4%	
% Change vs Prior Year	0.0%	-0.3%	-1.5%	-1.2%	

Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

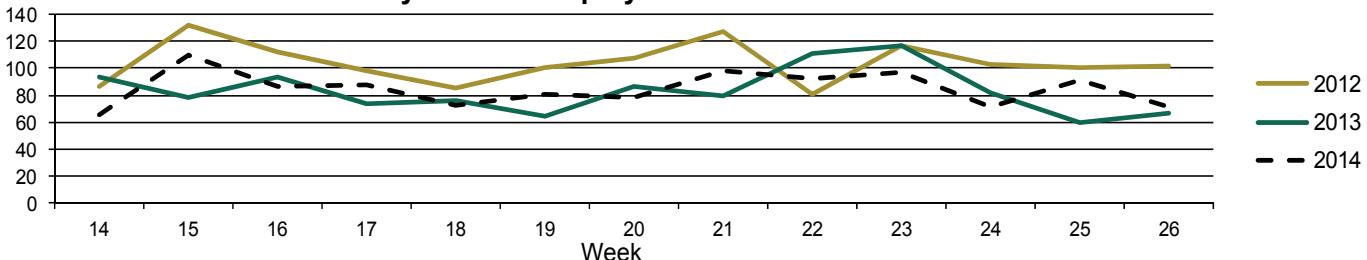


### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

#### ST. TAMMANY PARISH

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	66	110	87	88	73	81	78	98	92	97	72	91	72
Weeks Claimed	730	698	693	699	726	688	674	701	719	746	746	730	687

#### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



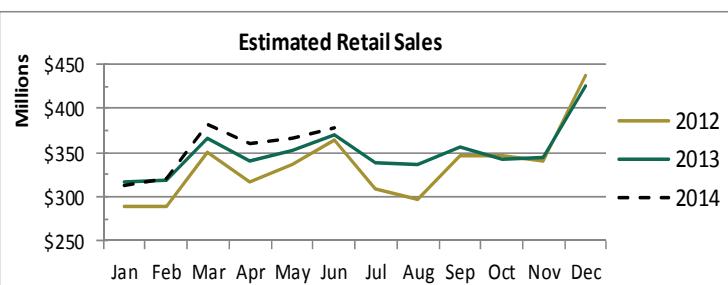
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

## St. Tammany Parish—continued

### ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

#### ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$338.8	\$335.9	\$355.8	\$341.8	\$343.9	\$425.1	\$312.8	\$320.3	\$382.8	\$359.3	\$366.2	\$377.5
% Change vs Prior Month	-8.3%	-0.8%	5.9%	-3.9%	0.6%	23.6%	-26.4%	2.4%	19.5%	-6.1%	1.9%	3.1%
% Change vs. Prior Year	9.5%	13.3%	2.6%	-1.5%	1.1%	-2.7%	-1.6%	0.4%	4.8%	5.5%	3.9%	2.1%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$343.5	\$370.3	\$338.6	\$367.7								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-3.0%	7.8%	-8.5%	8.6%								
% Change vs Prior Year	8.2%	-1.2%	1.4%	3.8%								

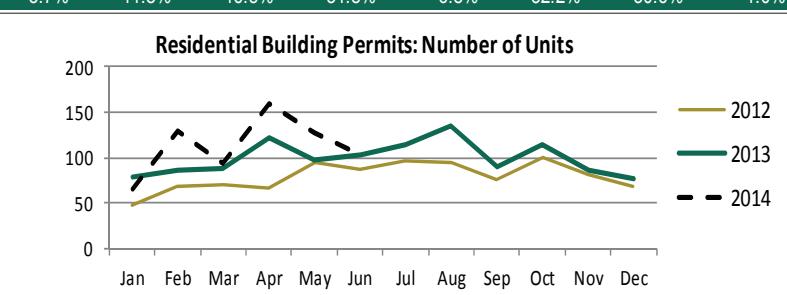


Source: St. Tammany Sales and Use Tax Department

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

#### ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Total Permits	114	135	89	114	85	76	66	129	94	160	128	103
% Change vs Prior Year	17.5%	43.6%	18.7%	14.0%	3.7%	11.8%	-16.5%	51.8%	8.0%	32.2%	30.6%	1.0%
Total Units	114	135	89	114	85	76	66	129	94	160	128	103
% Change vs Prior Year	17.5%	43.6%	18.7%	14.0%	3.7%	11.8%	-16.5%	51.8%	6.8%	32.2%	30.6%	1.0%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Total Permits	338	275	289	391								
% Change vs Prior Year	27.1%	10.0%	15.1%	21.8%								
Total Units	338	275	289	391								
% Change vs Prior Year	27.1%	10.0%	14.7%	21.8%								

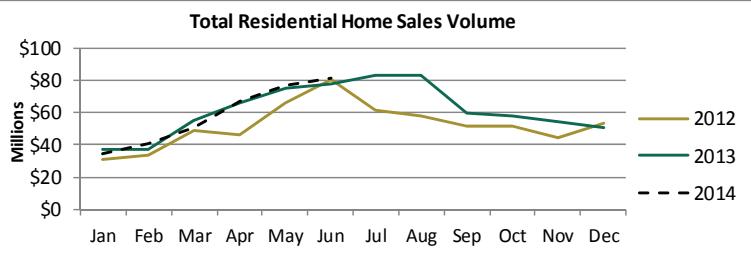


Sources: St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Town of Abita Springs, Village of Folkestone, Town of Madisonville, City of Mandeville, Town of Pearl River, City of Slidell, <http://censtats.census.gov> (some data estimated)

### RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES

#### ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	<u>Sep-13</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Jun-14</u>
Number of Homes Sold	340	352	274	267	243	246	171	184	226	318	320	331
% Change vs Prior Year	21.0%	38.6%	12.8%	12.2%	3.8%	6.0%	-10.9%	-5.2%	-20.4%	8.9%	3.6%	7.8%
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$82.8	\$83.3	\$59.5	\$57.6	\$54.0	\$51.1	\$34.4	\$41.1	\$50.7	\$66.7	\$76.5	\$81.4
% Change vs Prior Year	34.2%	42.7%	14.4%	11.4%	20.7%	-4.5%	-7.8%	11.2%	-7.7%	1.2%	1.9%	4.8%
Average Selling Price	\$243,416	\$236,629	\$217,176	\$215,892	\$222,088	\$207,525	\$201,237	\$223,452	\$224,164	\$209,898	\$239,044	\$245,971
% Change vs Prior Year	10.9%	2.9%	1.4%	-0.7%	16.2%	-9.9%	3.5%	17.2%	16.0%	-7.0%	-1.6%	-2.8%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Number of Homes Sold	966	756	581	969								
% Change vs Prior Year	24.2%	7.4%	-13.3%	6.7%								
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$225.6	\$162.7	\$126.2	\$224.7								
% Change vs Prior Year	31.1%	8.5%	-2.3%	2.7%								
Average Selling Price	\$233,500	\$215,161	\$217,191	\$231,845								
% Change vs Prior Year	5.6%	1.1%	12.6%	-3.8%								



Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc. for the period 04/2012 to 06/2014.

# Economic Reporter

## Tangipahoa Parish

Total employment in Tangipahoa Parish in the second quarter of 2014 fell 0.1 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013.

However, the workforce fell by a larger 1.7 percent, causing the unemployment rate to decline to 6.1 percent from 7.7 percent of a year ago.

Initial unemployment claims were down 13.2 percent compared to 2Q2013 and continuing weeks claimed were down 9.2 percent.

The estimated value of taxable sales rose 5.5 per-

cent compared to the second quarter of the previous year, approximating the 5.3 percent average for the entire region.

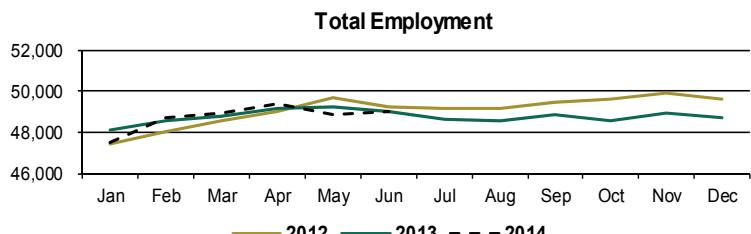
Building permits rose 28.5 percent from the previous quarter but were down 3.3 percent compared to the second quarter of 2013.

Residential home sales were up 7.3 percent compared to 2Q2013 and the average selling price increased 0.5 percent, combining to yield an increase in total home sales volume of 7.8 percent.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	52,958	52,677	52,610	52,068	52,015	51,617	50,608	51,202	51,653	52,065	52,104	52,718
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.6%	-1.4%	-1.2%	-2.3%	-2.1%	-3.0%	-3.6%	-1.9%	-1.6%	-1.3%	-1.9%	-2.0%
Total Employment	48,651	48,537	48,883	48,579	48,958	48,679	47,476	48,682	48,909	49,406	48,851	49,024
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.0%	-1.3%	-1.1%	-2.0%	-1.9%	-1.8%	-1.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	-0.7%	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	8.1%	7.9%	7.1%	6.7%	5.9%	5.7%	6.2%	4.9%	5.3%	5.1%	6.2%	7.0%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-1.2%	-2.2%	-2.2%	-1.8%	-1.7%	-1.1%	-1.9%
	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14								
Labor Force	52,748	51,900	51,154	52,296								
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.4%	-2.5%	-2.4%	-1.7%								
Total Employment	48,690	48,739	48,356	49,094								
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.1%	-1.9%	-0.2%	-0.1%								
Unemployment Rate	7.7%	6.1%	5.5%	6.1%								
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.3%	-0.6%	-2.1%	-1.6%								



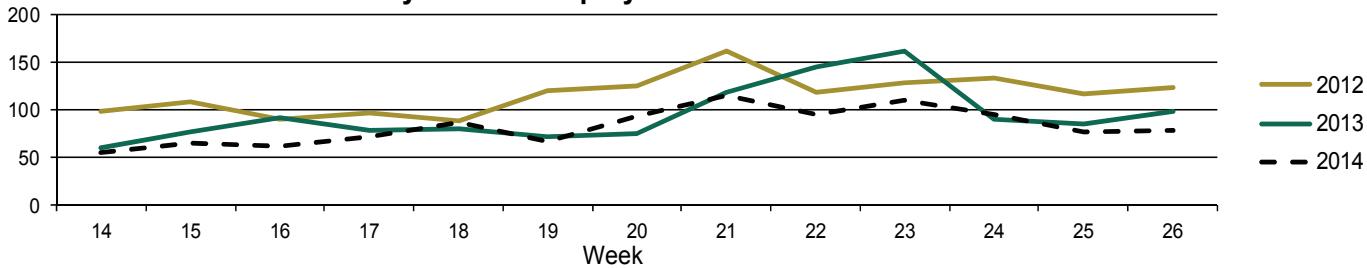
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

#### TANGIPAHOA PARISH

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	55	65	63	72	87	68	93	116	96	110	95	78	79
Weeks Claimed	559	543	560	528	530	554	537	557	648	663	703	726	718

#### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



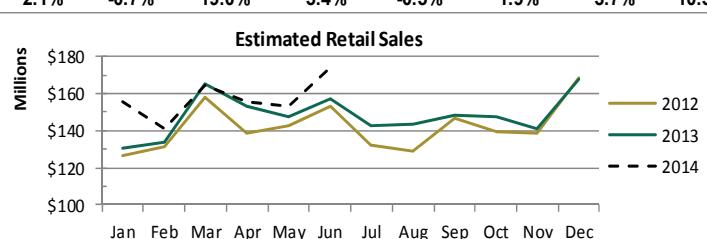
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

## Tangipahoa Parish—continued

### ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

#### TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$142.67	\$143.46	\$148.66	\$147.23	\$141.15	\$167.39	\$155.57	\$140.92	\$164.62	\$155.68	\$152.82	\$173.88
% Change vs Prior Month	-9.3%	0.5%	3.6%	-1.0%	-4.1%	18.6%	-7.1%	-9.4%	16.8%	-5.4%	-1.8%	13.8%
% Change vs. Prior Year	8.3%	11.3%	1.2%	5.9%	2.1%	-0.7%	19.0%	5.4%	-0.5%	1.9%	3.7%	10.5%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$144.93	\$151.92	\$153.71	\$160.79								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-5.0%	4.8%	1.2%	4.6%								
% Change vs Prior Year	6.7%	2.2%	7.3%	5.4%								

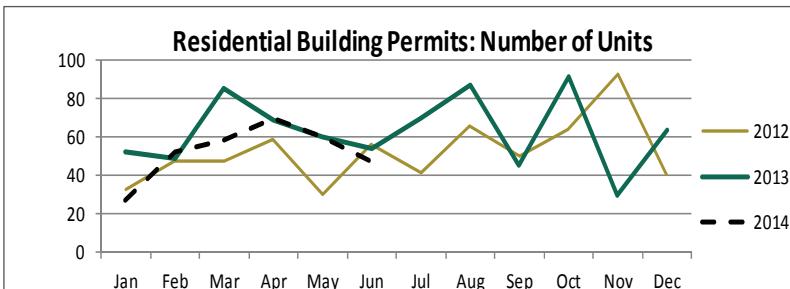


Source: Sales Tax Division of the Tangipahoa Parish School System

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

#### TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	<u>Jul 13</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Mar 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Total Permits	69	87	45	63	29	49	27	50	58	69	53	47
% Change vs Prior Year	58.5%	24.6%	-10.0%	-1.6%	-50.0%	22.5%	-48.1%	4.2%	-31.8%	1.5%	-11.7%	-13.0%
Total Units	69	87	45	91	29	63	27	52	58	69	60	47
% Change vs Prior Year	58.5%	24.6%	-10.0%	42.2%	-68.5%	57.5%	-48.1%	8.3%	-31.8%	1.5%	0.0%	-13.0%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Total Permits	201	141	135	169								
% Change vs Prior Year	28.8%	-13.0%	-27.0%	-7.1%								
Total Units	201	183	137	176								
% Change vs Prior Year	28.8%	-6.6%	-25.9%	-3.3%								

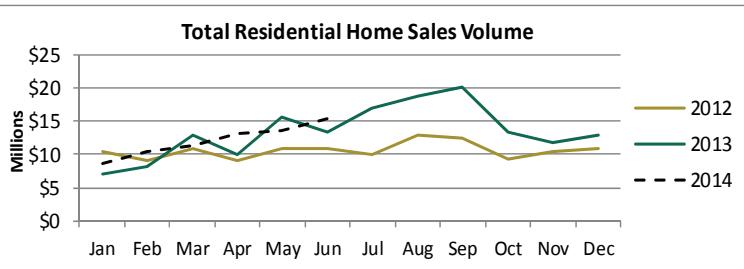


Source: Tangipahoa Parish Permit Office

### RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES

#### TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	<u>Sep-13</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Jun-14</u>
Number of Homes Sold	105	126	107	88	73	80	58	75	73	86	93	102
% Change vs Prior Year	52.2%	51.8%	21.6%	20.5%	-2.7%	33.3%	0.0%	15.4%	-14.1%	11.7%	-7.0%	20.0%
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$16.9	\$18.8	\$20.1	\$13.4	\$11.8	\$13.0	\$8.7	\$10.5	\$11.4	\$13.1	\$13.5	\$15.4
% Change vs Prior Year	68.1%	46.2%	62.2%	41.9%	12.5%	20.0%	23.5%	28.7%	-11.9%	31.1%	-13.9%	16.0%
Average Selling Price	\$160,499	\$149,513	\$187,978	\$151,881	\$161,790	\$161,959	\$150,128	\$139,900	\$156,025	\$151,927	\$145,559	\$151,310
% Change vs Prior Year	10.5%	-3.7%	33.4%	17.7%	15.6%	-10.0%	23.5%	11.6%	2.6%	17.4%	-7.4%	-3.3%
	<u>3QT-13</u>	<u>4QT-13</u>	<u>1QT-14</u>	<u>2QT-14</u>								
Number of Homes Sold	338	241	206	281								
% Change vs Prior Year	40.8%	15.9%	-1.0%	7.3%								
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$55.8	\$38.1	\$30.6	\$42.0								
% Change vs Prior Year	58.1%	24.2%	8.8%	7.8%								
Average Selling Price	\$165,103	\$158,228	\$148,494	\$149,595								
% Change vs Prior Year	12.2%	7.2%	9.8%	0.5%								



Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc.  
for the period 04/2012 to 06/2014.

# Economic Reporter

## Washington Parish

Total employment in Washington Parish in the second quarter of 2014 fell 0.6 percent compared to the second quarter of the previous year.

The labor force fell a much greater 2.6 percent, causing the unemployment rate to decline to 7.3 percent from the 9.1 percent of 2Q2013.

Initial unemployment claims were down 9.6 percent from 2Q2013 and continuing weeks claimed fell 12.3 percent.

The estimated value of taxable sales was 16.1

percent higher than in the second quarter of the previous year, far ahead of the 5.3 percent average gain for the region.

Building permits fell 20.0 percent from the prior quarter and were 42.9 percent lower than in the second quarter of 2013, projecting a subdued outlook for residential construction in the parish.

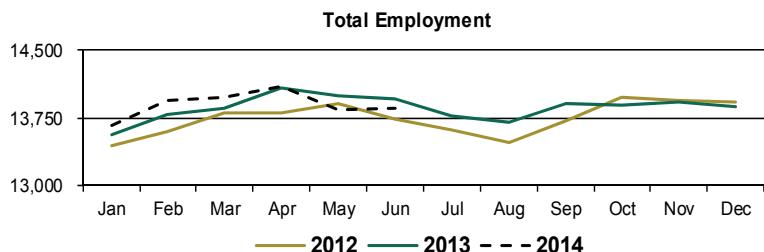
Residential home sales were up 35.3 percent compared to 2Q2013, but the average selling price fell by 11.4 percent, combining to yield an increase in volume of 19.8 percent.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### WASHINGTON PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14
Labor Force	15,285	15,090	15,186	15,112	14,986	14,833	14,684	14,811	14,919	14,999	14,958	15,120
% Change vs Prior Year	0.8%	1.3%	1.4%	-0.8%	-0.4%	-2.2%	-2.6%	-1.7%	-1.4%	-2.0%	-2.6%	-3.2%
Total Employment	13,777	13,695	13,915	13,896	13,919	13,871	13,664	13,938	13,976	14,105	13,838	13,853
% Change vs Prior Year	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%	-0.6%	-0.2%	-0.4%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%	0.1%	-1.2%	-0.8%
Unemployment Rate	9.9%	9.2%	8.4%	8.0%	7.1%	6.5%	6.9%	5.9%	6.3%	6.0%	7.5%	8.4%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-1.7%	-3.1%	-2.6%	-2.1%	-2.0%	-1.3%	-2.2%

	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14
Labor Force	15,187	14,977	14,805	15,026
% Change vs Prior Year	1.2%	-1.2%	-1.9%	-2.6%
Total Employment	13,796	13,895	13,859	13,932
% Change vs Prior Year	1.4%	-0.4%	0.9%	-0.6%
Unemployment Rate	9.2%	7.2%	6.4%	7.3%
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.2%	-0.7%	-2.6%	-1.8%



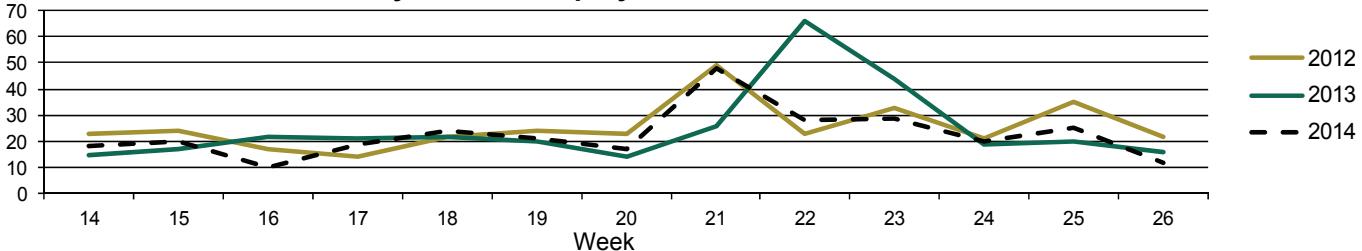
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

### WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) CLAIMS

#### WASHINGTON PARISH

Week	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Date	4/5/14	4/12/14	4/19/14	4/26/14	5/3/14	5/10/14	5/17/14	5/24/14	5/31/14	6/7/14	6/14/14	6/21/14	6/28/14
Initial UI Claims	18	20	10	19	24	21	17	48	28	29	20	25	12
Weeks Claimed	128	137	136	134	147	149	147	152	190	198	213	216	216

#### Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



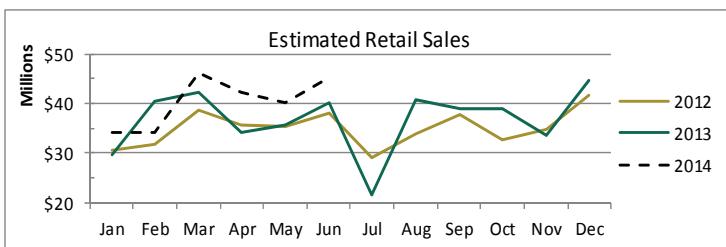
Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

## Washington Parish—continued

### ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

#### WASHINGTON PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14	
Estimated Retail Sales (mil.)	\$21.57	\$40.85	\$38.85	\$38.85	\$33.42	\$44.53	\$34.21	\$34.10	\$46.09	\$42.31	\$40.22	\$45.35	
% Change vs Prior Month	-46.4%	89.4%	-4.9%	0.0%	-14.0%	33.2%	-23.2%	-0.3%	35.2%	-8.2%	-4.9%	12.8%	
% Change vs. Prior Year	-26.0%	20.1%	2.8%	19.0%	-3.7%	6.7%	15.4%	-16.0%	8.9%	23.6%	12.8%	12.8%	
	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14									
Quarterly Avg. Sales (mil.)	\$33.76	\$38.94	\$38.13	\$42.63	Estimated Retail Sales								
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-8.0%	15.3%	-2.1%	11.8%									
% Change vs Prior Year	0.3%	7.0%	1.7%	16.1%									

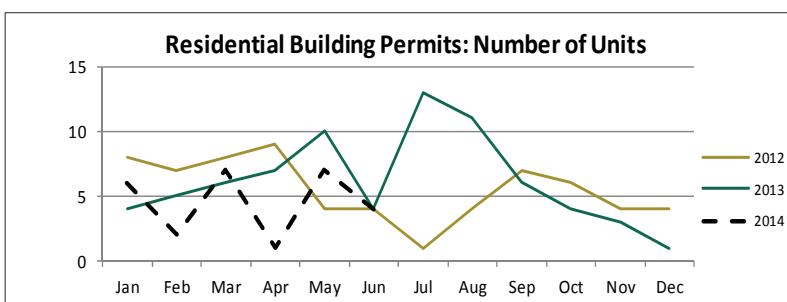


Source: Washington Parish Sheriff's Office - Sales and Use Tax Department.

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

#### WASHINGTON PARISH

	Jul 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14	
Total Permits	13	11	6	4	3	1	6	2	7	1	7	4	
% Change vs Prior Year	1200.0%	175.0%	-14.3%	-33.3%	-25.0%	-75.0%	50.0%	-60.0%	16.7%	-85.7%	-30.0%	0.0%	
Total Units	13	11	6	4	3	1	6	2	7	1	7	4	
% Change vs Prior Year	1200.0%	175.0%	-14.3%	-33.3%	-25.0%	-75.0%	50.0%	-60.0%	16.7%	-85.7%	-30.0%	0.0%	
	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14									
Total Permits	30	8	15	12	Residential Building Permits: Number of Units								
% Change vs Prior Year	150.0%	-42.9%	0.0%	-42.9%									
Total Units	30	8	15	12									
% Change vs Prior Year	150.0%	-42.9%	0.0%	-42.9%									

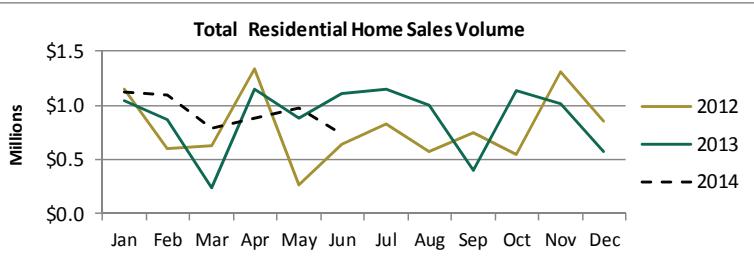


Sources: Washington Parish Permit Office and  
<http://censtats.census.gov>

### RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES

#### WASHINGTON PARISH

	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	
Number of Homes Sold	15	10	14	12	11	10	12	12	13	15	13	18	
% Change vs Prior Year	15.4%	66.7%	-6.7%	-20.0%	-8.3%	-23.1%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	50.0%	62.5%	12.5%	
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$1.1	\$0.8	\$0.9	\$1.0	\$0.7	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$1.0	\$1.1	\$0.8	\$1.4	
% Change vs Prior Year	26.3%	233.3%	-23.6%	11.6%	-34.5%	-26.4%	-24.6%	99.9%	-8.7%	8.5%	37.2%	21.2%	
Average Selling Price	\$73,253	\$78,990	\$62,871	\$81,330	\$66,400	\$84,350	\$62,933	\$67,460	\$79,938	\$73,043	\$60,425	\$75,183	
% Change vs Prior Year	9.4%	100.0%	-18.2%	39.5%	-28.5%	-4.3%	-13.2%	17.3%	-12.3%	-27.7%	-15.6%	7.7%	
	3QT-13	4QT-13	1QT-14	2QT-14									
Number of Homes Sold	39	33	37	46	Total Residential Home Sales Volume								
% Change vs Prior Year	14.7%	-17.5%	19.4%	35.3%									
Total Sales Volume (mil.)	\$2.8	\$2.5	\$2.6	\$3.2									
% Change vs Prior Year	22.5%	-18.7%	2.3%	19.8%									
Average Selling Price	\$70,997	\$77,268	\$70,376	\$70,315									
% Change vs Prior Year	6.8%	-1.4%	-14.3%	-11.4%									



Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc.  
for the period 04/2012 to 06/2014.

# Economic Reporter

## SOUTHEASTERN

### Southeastern forms partnership with fabrication firm

Impressed with the caliber of graduates it has employed from Southeastern's industrial technology and occupational safety, health, and environment programs, a Baton Rouge-based heavy industrial construction company has formed a partnership to help support the programs.

Performance Contractors, Inc., licensed in 27 states and one of the largest heavy construction companies in the South with locations in Baton Rouge, Mobile and Texas, has established special accounts with supply vendors to be used by the university and paid for by PCI.

"Our relationship with Southeastern goes back several years when we started recruiting graduates of the industrial technology and safety programs," said Jerome Mabile, corporate quality control director at PCI and a new member of Southeastern's Industrial Advisory Board. "What has transpired since is a small but steady influx of Southeastern interns and graduates in well-paying positions. The graduates are exceeding our expectations in terms of knowledge, commitment and work ethic. We hope to continue to help the university achieve its goal of placing graduates in exciting and rewarding careers."

"This is a great achievement for our program," said Anthony Blakeney, metallurgist and IT instructor, who helped forge the arrangement. "It is significant for the department and our students and underscores the importance and value industrial technology coursework has on the workforce of this region."

(Article courtesy of Southeastern's Public Information Office.)



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- Office of Economic & Business Development
- Southeast Louisiana Business Center
- College of Business

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**Livingston Parish School Board Sales and Use Tax Division**

**St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office**

**St. Tammany Parish Permit Office and Sheriff's Office Sales and Use Tax Department**

**Tangipahoa Parish Permit Office and School Board Sales and Use Tax Department**

**Washington Parish Building and Planning Department and Sheriff's Office Sales and Use Tax Department**

**Building permit offices of the following municipalities:**

**Town of Abita Springs**  
**Village of Albany**  
**City of Denham Springs**  
**Village of Folsom**  
**City of Hammond**  
**Town of Livingston**

**Town of Madisonville**  
**City of Mandeville**  
**Town of Pearl River**  
**City of Ponchatoula**  
**City of Slidell**  
**Town of Walker**