Promoting Economic Development in Southeast Louisiana

Fall 2015 Vol. 11 · No. 3

NATIONAL

• U.S. Economy

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Louisiana Economy

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- Employment
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- St. Tammany
- Tangipahoa
- Washington

SOUTHEASTERN

 Southeastern grad student helps revitalize farmers market

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NATIONAL

U.S. Economy

Herb A. Holloway

Research Economist Business Research Center

U. S. real gross domestic product grew at a 3.9 percent annual rate during the second quarter of 2015 and was 2.7 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2014.

Total civilian employment for the second quarter of 2015 rose 1.9 percent compared to the corresponding period of the previous year while the workforce rose 1.0 percent. This led to a decline in the unemployment rate from 6.2 percent to 5.4 percent.

A survey of professional economists in August 2015 by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia projects the U.S. economy to grow 2.4, 2.8, 2.8, and 2.5 percent in 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018, respectively. An alternative set of forecasts by Wells Fargo Bank indicates gains of 2.4, 2.4, and 2.5 percent in 2015, 2016, and 2017, respectively.

U.S. personal income grew by 1.3 percent in 2Q2015.

EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted) **UNITED STATES (Numbers in Thousands)** Jul 14 Aug 14 Sep 14 Oct 14 Nov 14 Dec 14 Jan 15 Feb 15 Mar 15 Apr 15 May 15 Jun 15 **Labor Force** 156,048 156,018 155,845 156,243 156,402 156,129 157,180 157,002 156,906 157,072 157,469 157,037 % Change vs Prior Year 0.3% 0.3% 0.2% 1.1% 0.7% 0.7% 1.1% 0.8% 0.5% 0.9% 146,401 146,451 146.607 147,260 147,331 147,442 148,201 148,297 148,331 148,523 148,795 148,739 Total Employment % Change vs Prior Year 1.5% 1.5% 1.6% 2.7% 2.0% 2.1% 2.1% 1.7% Total Nonfarm Emp. 139,156 139,369 139.619 139.840 140.263 140,592 140.793 141.059 141,144 141.870 % Change vs Prior Year 2.1% 2.0% 2,0% 2,0% 2.0% 2.1% 2.3% 2,3% 2,3% 2,2% 2,2% 2,2% **Unemployment Rate** 6 2% 6.1% 5.9% 5.7% 5.8% 5.6% 5.7% 5.5% 5.5% 5.4% 5.3% -1.5% -1.2% -0.9% % Change vs Prior Year -1.1% -1.1% -1.3% -1.1% -1.1% -1.2% -0.8% -0.8% -0.8% 3QT-14 4QT-14 1QT-15 2QT-15 Total Employment (000s) 155,000 155.970 156,258 157,029 157,193 **Labor Force** 0.3% 0.8% 0.8% % Change vs Prior Year 1.0% 150,000 148,686 Total Employment 146,486 147,344 148,276 % Change vs Prior Year 1.5% 2.2% 2.0% 1.9% 145,000 Total Nonfarm Emp. 139,381 140,232 140,999 141,621 2.2% % Change vs Prior Year 2 0% 2 1% 2.3% 140.000 Unemployment Rate 6.1% 5.7% 5.6% 5.4% Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec -1.2% % Change vs Prior Year -1.2% -1.3% -0.8% **—— 2013 —— 2014 — — 2015** Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

STATE

Louisiana Economy

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Total state employment for the second quarter of 2015 rose 0.7 percent from the previous quarter and was 2.8 percent higher than for the second quarter of 2014.

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2015 was 6.5 percent, compared to 5.9 percent in 2Q2014. The state unemployment rate increased year-over-year because the Louisiana labor force grew more (+3.5 percent) than employment (+2.8 percent).

Sales tax collections for the second quarter of 2015 fell 0.1 percent compared to the prior quarter and 8.0 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014. This was the first year-over-year decrease since the second quarter of 2013.

Seasonally-adjusted state personal income increased 0.8 percent (\$1.7 billion) in the second quarter of 2015.

Net earnings were up \$437 million, dividends, interest and rents increased \$524 million, and personal transfer receipts increased by \$707 million.

Industries contributing the most quarter-overquarter growth in earnings from 1Q2015 to 2Q2015 were *Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services* (+\$180 million), *Health Care and Social Assistance* (+\$129 million), and *Manufacturing: Nondurable goods* (+\$111 million).

Earnings from *Mining* (which includes oil and gas exploration and production) declined by \$353 million from 1Q2015 to 2Q2015.

LOUISIANA (Numbe	ers in The	ousands	7									
	<u>Jul 14</u>	<u>Aug 14</u>	<u>Sep 14</u>	Oct 14	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u> Apr 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 1</u> :
Labor Force	2,159	2,171	2,181	2,189	2,196	2,201	2,203	2,202	2,205	2,211	2,215	2,21
% Change vs Prior Year	2.7%	3.2%	3.6%	4.0%	4.2%	4.4%	4.4%	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%	3.7%	2.9°
Total Employment	2,020	2,026	2,031	2,035	2,038	2,041	2,050	2,054	2,060	2,065	2,069	2,06
% Change vs Prior Year	2,8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.5%	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2,79
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,982	1,985	1,988	1,992	1,994	1,997	1,989	1,987	1,984	1,986	1,989	1,99
% Change vs Prior Year	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.8%	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.79
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.7%	6.9%	7.0%	7.2%	7.2%	7.0%	6.7%	6.6%	6.6%	6.6%	6.4°
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.1%	0.3%	0.7%	1.1%	1.4%	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%	0.7%	0.2
	3QT-14	4QT-14	1QT-15	2QT-15			To	tal Emplo	yment (0	00s)		
Labor Force	2,170	2,195	2,204	2,212	2,200 T					-		
% Change vs Prior Year	3.2%	4.2%	4.2%	3.5%	+							
Total Employment	2,026	2,038	2,054	2,068	2,100							
% Change vs Prior Year	2.8%	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	†							_
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,985	1,994	1,987	1,990	2,000							_
% Change vs Prior Year	1.5%	1.6%	1.0%	0.6%	1.900							
		- 40/	0.00/	C F0/	,	1			1	1		
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	7.1%	6.8%	6.5%	J	an Feb ∣	Mar Apr	Mav Jun	Jul Au	q Sep C	Oct Nov	Dec

REGIONAL

Northshore Employment

Herb A. Holloway

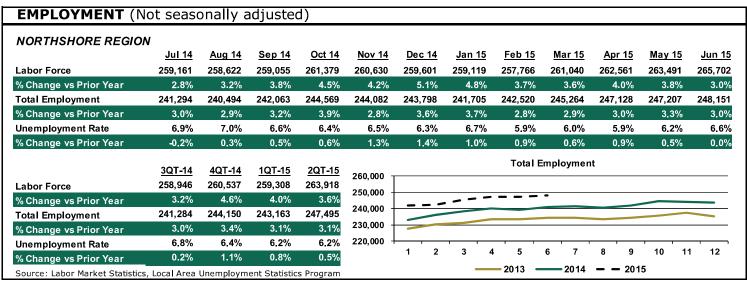
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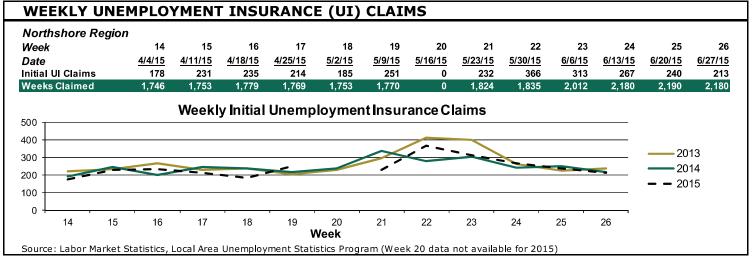
Total employment in the Northshore Region (Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington parishes) was 1.8 percent higher in 2Q2015 than in the previous quarter, and 3.1 percent (+7,395 jobs) higher than in the second quarter of 2014.

The total civilian work force in 2Q2015 also increased 1.8 percent from the previous quarter and 3.6 percent compared to 2Q2014.

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2015 was 6.2 percent, unchanged from the previous quarter, but higher than the 5.8 percent of 2Q2014.

Initial unemployment insurance claims in 2Q2015 were down 1.9 percent from 2Q2014, and total weeks claimed were down 1.3 percent. (Note: Due to missing data in 2015, Week 20 totals were not included for either 2014 or 2015.)

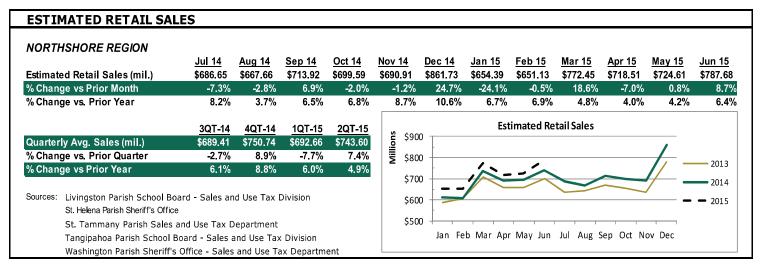




Estimated Retail Sales in the Northshore Region

The 2Q2015 value of retail sales for the region increased 7.4 percent from the previous quarter and was 4.9 percent higher than for 2Q2014. All

the parishes in the Northshore region saw yearover-year gains in sales compared to the second quarter of 2014.



Residential Building Permits in the Northshore Region

The volume of building permits for residential units in the Northshore region (excluding St. Helena Parish—for which data was not available) issued during 2Q2015 rose 7.4 percent over the prior quarter and 2.6 percent from the second quarter of 2014, indicating a favorable outlook for residential construction.

On a year-over-year basis, Livingston, Tangipahoa, and Washington parishes all reported strong increases, while St. Tammany experienced a significant decline.

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

RESIDENTIAL		10 1 210	1-11-1-5									
NORTHSHORE REGIO												
	<u>Jul 14</u>	<u> Aug 14</u>	<u>Sep 14</u>	Oct 14	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u> Apr 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>
Total Permits	242	230	211	218	160	198	191	246	296	260	212	293
% Change vs Prior Year	-18.0%	-18.1%	-9.4%	-13.1%	-17.1%	32.9%	18.6%	1.7%	33.9%	-11.0%	-15.9%	33.2%
Total Units	244	245	211	220	162	198	191	246	298	279	212	293
% Change vs Prior Year	-19.5%	-12.8%	-13.9%	-21.1%	-19.8%	21.5%	18.6%	0.8%	34.8%	-4.5%	-18.1%	33.2%
						Res	idential Bu	ilding Perm	its: Numbei	of Units		
	3QT-14	4QT-14	<u>1QT-15</u>	2QT-15	400							
Total Permits	683	576	733	765	300							
% Change vs Prior Year	-15.6%	-2.9%	17.5%	0.1%							_	2013
Total Units	700	580	735	784	200	-/					>	
% Change vs Prior Year	-15.6%	-9.9%	17.4%	1.7%	100							2014
Sources: Livingston Parish Liv	vingeton Parich Pr	armit Office Tow	un of Albany		0		1 1			1 1		- 2015
Cources. Livingstorri arisir Liv	•	m Springs, Tow	• •			Jan Feb M	√ar Apr N	∕lay Jun J	ul Aug Se	p Oct No	v Dec	
	Town of Wall	ker, http://censta	ats.census.gov				•	•		•		
		Dennit Office (-/- f 2OT 4E				T:	angipahoa Paris	h Tangipahoa	Parish Permit O	ffice, City of Har	nmond.
St. Helena Parish –	St. Helena Parish	Permit Office (r	1/a 101 ZQ1=15)									,
St. Helena Parish –	St. Helena Parish	Permit Office (r	1/a 101 2Q1=15)						City of Po	nchatou l a, http:	//censtats.censu	
St. Helena Parish – St. Tammany Parish		•	•	ita Springs, Vi ll a	ge of Folsom, T	own of	l _w	/ashington Paris	City of Po h – http://censta		//censtats.censu	

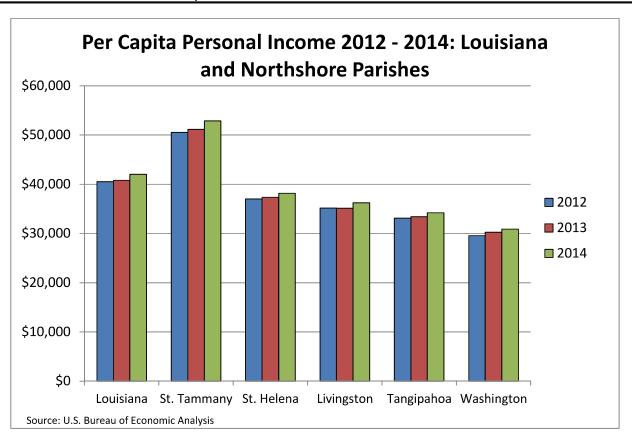
Per Capita Personal Income by Northshore Parish: 2012-2014

Herb Holloway Research Economist

Per Capita Pe	ersona	I Incon	ne by (County	, 2012	- 2014	
	Per	r capita per	sonal incon	ne ¹	Percent cl	nange from period ²	preceding
		Dollars		Rank in State	Percent	change	Rank in State
	2012	2013	2014	2014	2013	2014	2014
Louisiana	40,527	40,819	42,030		0.7	3.0	_
St. Tammany	50,523	51,142	52,867	2	1.2	3.4	14
St. Helena	37,034	37,357	38,167	26	0.9	2.2	39
Livingston	35,166	35,129	36,230	37	-0.1	3.1	18
Tangipahoa	33,111	33,394	34,192	45	0.9	2.4	34
Washington	29,565	30,252	30,882	59	2.3	2.1	46

^{1.} Per capita personal income was computed using Census Bureau midyear population estimates. Estimates reflect county population estimates available as of March 2015.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis



^{2.} Percent change was calculated from unrounded data.

LOCAL

Livingston Parish

Livingston Parish 2Q2015 employment increased 2.0 percent from the prior quarter and 3.8 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014.

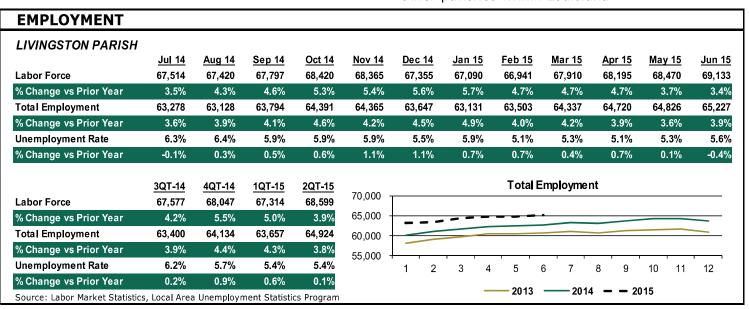
The value of taxable sales rose 7.9 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014, a larger increase than the 4.9 percent average for the region.

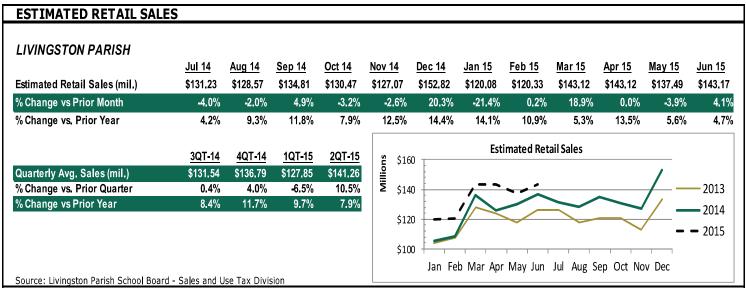
The number of building permits for residential units rose 1.8 percent from the previous quarter

and 24.9 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014, continuing the strong activity from 1Q2015.

There were 525 homes sold in Livingston Parish in 2Q2015, up 12.2 percent from 468 in 2Q2014.

Livingston Parish residents purchased 1,757 new cars and light trucks in 2Q2015, including 193 from dealers within Livingston Parish. Parish dealers also sold 138 new vehicles to residents of other parishes within Louisiana.



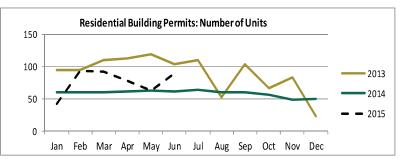


Livingston Parish—continued

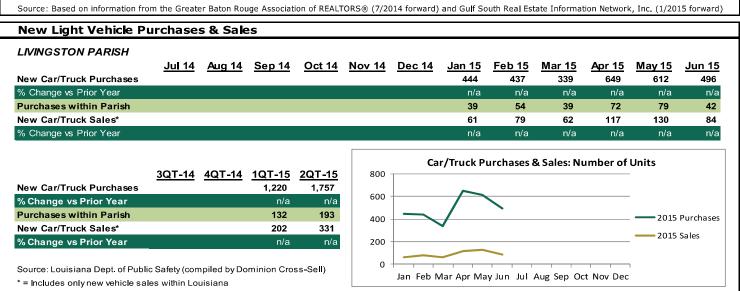
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS LIVINGSTON PARISH Jul 14 Aug 14 Sep 14 Oct 14 Nov 14 Dec 14 Jan 15 Feb 15 Mar 15 Apr 15 May 15 Jun 15 **Total Permits** 64 60 60 56 48 50 93 92 78 63 -34.1% -37.3% -30.0% 55.0% 53.3% 0.0% 47.5% % Change vs Prior Year 13.2% -15.2% -35.1% **Total Units** 64 60 60 56 48 50 42 93 92 78 63 90 -42.2% 117.4% -30.0% 55.0% 53.3% 0.0% % Change vs Prior Year -41.8% 13.2% -41.7% -15.2% 27.9% 47.5%

	3QT-14	4QT-14	<u>1QT-15</u>	2QT-15
Total Permits	184	154	227	231
% Change vs Prior Year	-25.2%	-5.5%	26.1%	24.9%
Total Units	184	154	227	231
% Change vs Prior Year	-30.8%	-10.5%	26,1%	24.9%

Sources: Town of Albany, City of Denham Springs, Town of Livingston, Livingston Parish Permit Office, http://censtats.census.gov (Note: City of Walker permits estimated for 3Q2014)



RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES LIVINGSTON PARISH Jul-14 Aug-14 Sep-14 Oct-14 Nov-14 Dec-14 <u>Jan-15</u> Feb-15 Mar-15 Apr-15 May-15 <u>Jun-15</u> **Number of Homes Sold** 153 145 125 96 131 103 124 158 174 201 183 150 % Change vs Prior Year 14 2% 15.8% 16.8% -19 3% 28.5% 16.0% 24.8% Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$27.8 \$29.7 \$34.4 n/a n/a n/a % Change vs Prior Year n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a **Median Selling Price** \$161,590 \$161,000 \$159,450 \$154,900 \$156,340 \$164,500 \$157,150 \$170,900 \$159,450 \$165,250 \$168,550 \$162,500 % Change vs Prior Year 3.6% 8.2% 3.9% 6.8% 4.2% 9.8% -1.1% **Median Home Sales Price** 3QT-14 4QT-14 1QT-15 2QT-15 \$200,000 **Number of Homes Sold** 481 385 525 352 2013 % Change vs Prior Year 11.3% 5.4% 24.2% \$150,000 2014 Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$66.6 \$92.0 n/a n/a % Change vs Prior Year n/a n/a **-** 2015 n/a \$100.000 **Average Selling Price** n/a n/a \$173,068 \$175,194 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec % Change vs Prior Year



St. Helena Parish

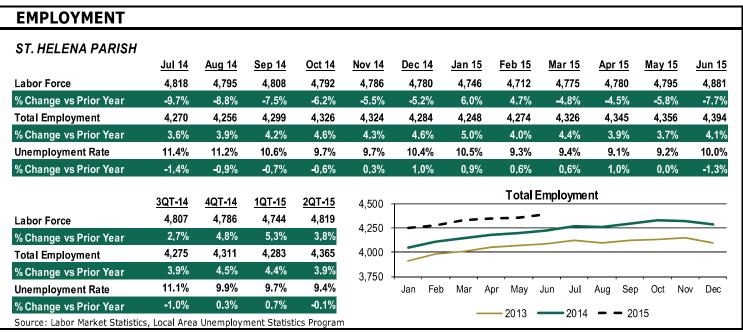
Employment in St. Helena Parish in the second quarter of 2015 rose 3.9 percent (+164 jobs) compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The labor force grew 3.8 percent, causing the unemployment rate to decline slightly to 9.4 percent from the 9.5 percent of a year ago.

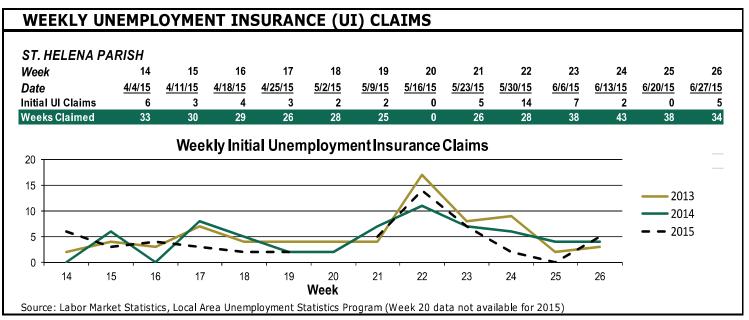
The value of taxable sales rose 1.3 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014, in contrast

to the 4.9 percent average increase for the region.

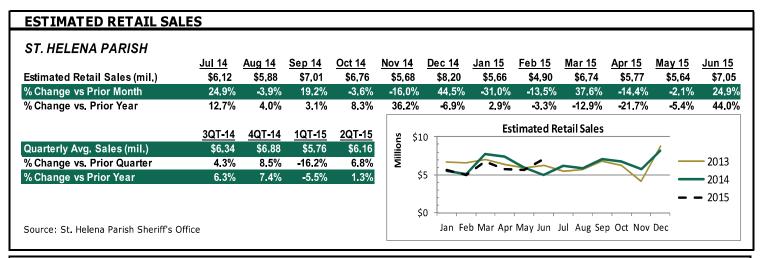
There were four homes sold in St. Helena Parish in 2Q2015, with an average price of \$119,250 and a median of \$138,000.

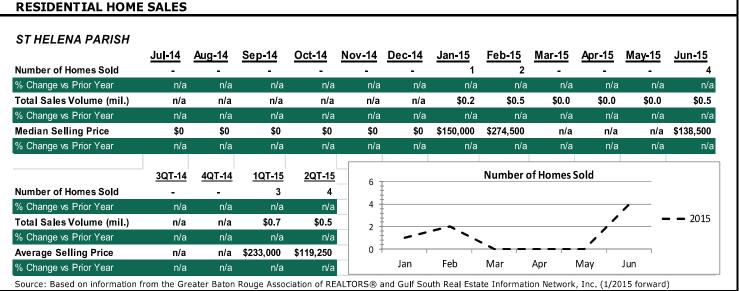
Residents of St. Helena Parish purchased 56 new cars and light trucks in the second quarter of 2015.

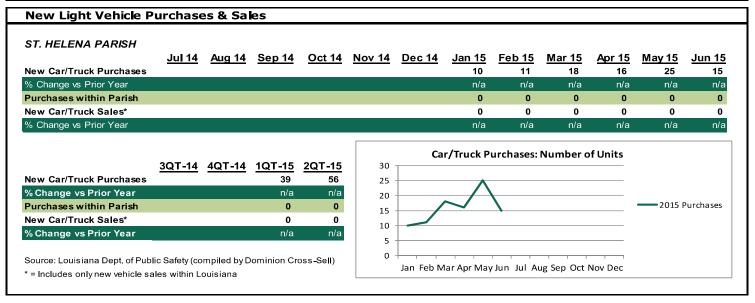




St. Helena Parish—continued







St. Tammany Parish

Total employment in St. Tammany Parish in the second quarter of 2015 increased 1.8 percent compared to 2Q2014.

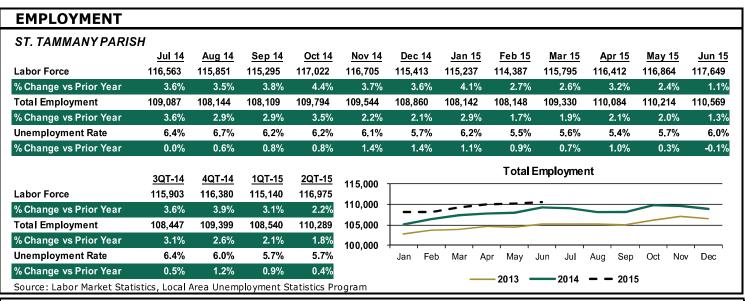
The labor force increased by 2.2 percent, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate from 5.3 percent in 2Q2014 to 5.7 percent in 2Q2015.

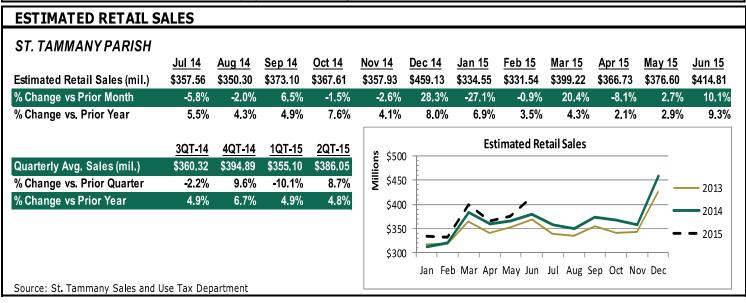
The value of taxable retail sales in 2Q2015 rose 4.8 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014, almost equal to the 4.9 percent average gain for the region.

Building permits for residential units fell 13.8 percent from the previous quarter and 18.6 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014.

The number of homes sold in St. Tammany Parish and the average selling price were up 10.7 and 2.8 percent, respectively, compared to 2Q2014, leading to a 13.9 percent increase in total residential sales volume.

St. Tammany Parish residents purchased 3,551 new cars and light trucks in 2Q2015, and parish dealers sold 3,360 within Louisiana.





St. Tammany Parish—continued

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS ST. TAMMANY PARISH Jul 14 Aug 14 Sep 14 Oct 14 Nov 14 Dec 14 Jan 15 Feb 15 Mar 15 Apr 15 May 15 Jun 15 **Total Permits** 114 109 94 71 124 140 103 93 90 106 120 % Change vs Prior 18.4% 60.6% -35.6% 16.5% Total Units 114 110 94 93 71 90 106 124 140 103 96 120 0.0% -18.5% 5.6% -18.4% 60.6% -3.9% 48.9% -35.6% 16.5% % Change vs Prior Yea **Residential Building Permits: Number of Units** 200 2QT-15 3QT-14 4QT-14 1QT-15 **Total Permits** 317 254 370 319 2013 150 % Change vs P 28.0% 18.4% 2014 Total Units 254 318 370 319 100 % Change vs Prior -7.6% 28.0% **-**18.4% 2015 50 Sources: St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Town of Abita Springs, Village of 0 Folsom, Town of Madisonville, City of Mandeville, Town of Pearl River, Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec City of Slidell, http://censtats.census.gov (some data estimated)

RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES ST. TAMMANY PARISH Jul-14 Aug-14 Sep-14 Oct-14 Nov-14 Dec-14 Jan-15 Feb-15 Mar-15 Apr-15 May-15 Jun-15 **Number of Homes Sold** 355 345 308 294 228 277 211 229 304 308 374 391 % Change vs Prior Year 4.4% 4.2% 11.2% 8.5% -6.6% 12.6% 4.5% 24.5% 34.5% 16.9% 18.1% Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$65.0 \$84.3 \$79.1 \$69.0 \$52.6 \$71.0 \$44.9 \$51.0 \$70.4 \$68.4 \$93.8 \$93.7 % Change vs Prior Year 15.0% -2.6% 39.1% 10.8% 22.6% Average Selling Price \$237,503 \$229,340 \$223,978 \$221,051 \$230,776 \$256,350 \$212,954 \$222,648 \$231,592 \$222,100 \$250,698 \$239,532 % Change vs Prior Year -2.4% -2.6% 4.6% 2.5% 4.2% -0.4% -2.6% Total Residential Home Sales Volume 1QT-15 3QT-14 4QT-14 2QT-15 \$100 1,008 **Number of Homes Sold** 799 744 1,073 \$80 3.2% 5.0% 21.6% 10.7% % Change vs Prior Year **£** \$60 2013 Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$232.4 \$188.6 \$255.8 \$166.3 **€** \$40 % Change vs Prior Year 2.5% 13.9% 15.3% 25.7% 2014 Average Selling Price \$20 \$230.576 \$236.064 \$223,554 \$238,420 **-** 2015 % Change vs Prior Year -0.7%9.9% 3.4% \$0 Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc. Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec for the period 01/2013 to 06/2015

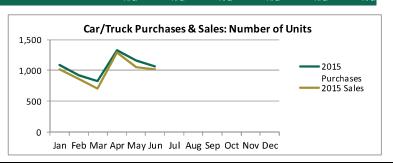
New Light Vehicle Purchases & Sales

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	<u>Jul 14</u>	<u>Aug 14</u>	Sep 14	Oct 14	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u> Apr 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>
New Car/Truck Purchases	<u> </u>	· ·		· ·		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1,093	926	831	1,330	1,157	1,064
% Change vs Prior Year							n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Purchases within Parish							659	555	472	825	709	658
New Car/Truck Sales*							1,019	863	710	1,288	1,056	1,016
% Change vs Prior Year							n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

New Car/Truck Purchases	3QT-14	4QT-14	1QT-15 2,850	2QT-15 3,551
% Change vs Prior Year			n/a	n/a
Purchases within Parish			1,686	2,192
New Car/Truck Sales*			2,592	3,360
% Change vs Prior Year			n/a	n/a

Source: Louisiana Dept. of Public Safety (compiled by Dominion Cross-Sell)



^{* =} Includes only new vehicle sales within Louisiana

Tangipahoa Parish

Total employment in Tangipahoa Parish in the second quarter of 2015 grew 5.0 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014. The labor force rose 6.2 percent, causing the unemployment rate to rise to 7.5 percent from the 6.4 percent of 2Q2014.

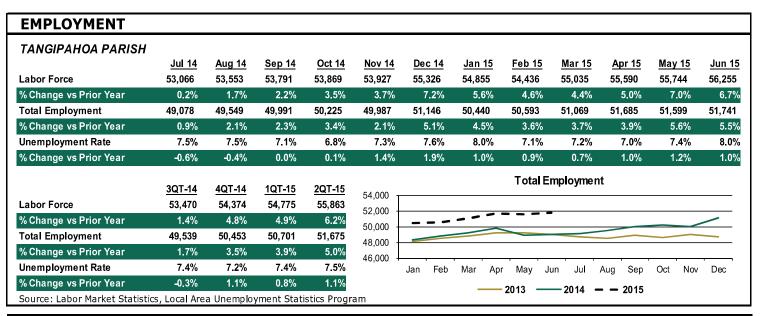
The value of taxable sales increased 4.2 percent from the previous quarter and 3.7 percent compared to the second quarter of 2014.

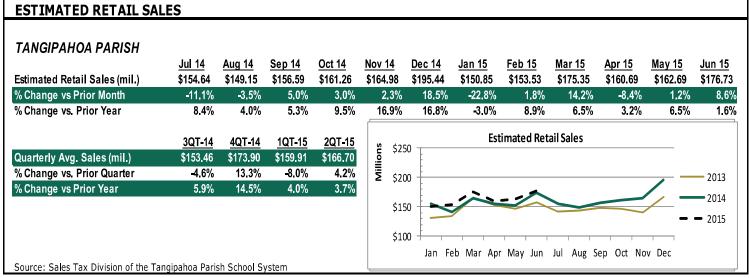
Residential construction permits increased 76.0 percent from the previous quarter and 25.0 per-

cent compared to the second quarter of 2014, reflecting a strong outlook for residential construction activities.

The number of homes sold in Tangipahoa Parish and the average selling price were up 1.4 and 7.1 percent, respectively, compared to 2Q2014, leading to an 8.6 percent increase in total residential sales volume.

Tangipahoa Parish residents purchased 1,453 new cars and light trucks in the first quarter of 2015, and parish dealers sold 1,571 within Louisiana.





Tangipahoa Parish—continued

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS TANGIPAHOA PARISH <u>Jul 14</u> Aug 14 <u>Sep 14</u> Oct 14 Nov 14 <u>Dec 14</u> <u>Jan 15</u> <u>Feb 15</u> Mar 15 Apr 15 May 15 <u>Jun 15</u> **Total Permits** 61 46 60 29 49 61 37.9% 2,2% 1.8% 0.0% 61.7% % Change vs Total Units 63 73 46 31 49 36 63 50 76 62 26 94 -21.8% % Change vs Prior Ye 2.2% 8.6% 61.7% **Residential Building Permits: Number of Units** 3QT-14 4QT-14 1QT-15 2QT-15 100 **Total Permits** 165 138 123 201 80 8.9% % Change vs Pri 17.9% 8.9% 60 **Total Units** 182 142 125 220 2014 % Change vs Prior Y 9.5% -22.4% -8.8% 25.0% 40 - 2015 20 0 Source: Tangipahoa Parish Permit Office, City of Hammond Permit Office, Feb Mar Apr May Jun Aug Sep Oct City of Ponchatoula Permit Office City of Hammond permits for 1Q2015 estimated by BRC)

RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES TANGIPAHOA PARISH Jul-14 Aug-14 Sep-14 Oct-14 Nov-14 Dec-14 Jan-15 Feb-15 Mar-15 Apr-15 May-15 Jun-15 Number of Homes Sold 88 102 114 95 70 77 70 72 115 85 74 126 % Change vs Prior Year -16.2% 5.6% 5.6% 9.4% -20.4% -19.7% -4.1% -3.8% 4.0% 57.5% -1.2% 23.5% Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$17.8 \$11.0 \$11.5 \$11.5 \$11.9 \$13.9 \$15.7 \$14.8 \$12,0 \$18.1 \$13.5 \$20.3 17.6% -7.0% 58.9% 3.0% % Change vs Prior Year -12.5% 7.5% -7.2% 15.6% 9.3% -12,2% 31.5% -17.3% Average Selling Price \$158,394 \$155,794 \$155,393 \$156,574 \$156,442 \$163,784 \$159,242 \$158,380 \$160,633 \$161,087 \$153,565 \$157,353 % Change vs Prior Year -1.3% 2.5% -17.1% 1.9% -3.2% -3.4% 5.7% 13.8% 0.9% 10.4% 6.5% **Total Residential Home Sales Volume** 3QT-14 4QT-14 1QT-15 2QT-15 \$25 **Number of Homes Sold** 304 242 257 285 \$20 % Change vs Prior Year -10.6% -0.4% 21.2% 2013 **£** \$15 Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$47.4 \$37.8 \$41.0 \$45.6 2014 % Change vs Prior Year -15.7% 8.6% ₩\$10 Average Selling Price \$155,799 \$156,069 \$159,634 \$160,161 \$5 **-** 2015 % Change vs Prior Year -5.7% -1.5% 6.4% \$0 Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc. Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec for the period 01/2013 to 06/2015.

TANGIPAHOA PARISH	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14	Oct 14	Nov 14	Dec 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15
New Car/Truck Purchases							468	356	342	538	474	441
% Change vs Prior Year							n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Purchases within Parish							250	181	185	289	246	222
New Car/Truck Sales*							444	361	483	676	469	426
% Change vs Prior Year							n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	3QT-14	<u>4QT-14</u>	1QT-15	<u>2QT-15</u>	800	Са	r/Truck P	urchases 8	& Sales։ Nւ	umber of	Units	
	3QT-14	4QT-14			800	Са	r/Truck P	urchases &	& Sales։ Nւ	umber of	Units	
	<u>3QT-14</u>	4QT-14	1,166	1,453	800	Ca	r/Truck P	urchases &	& Sales: Nu	umber of	Units	
% Change vs Prior Year	<u>3QT-14</u>	<u>4QT-14</u>	1,166 n/a	1,453 n/a		Ca	r/Truck P	urchases {	& Sales: Nu	umber of		urchases
New Car/Truck Purchases % Change vs Prior Year Purchases within Parish	<u>3QT-14</u>	4QT-14	1,166 n/a 616	1,453 n/a 757		Ca	r/Truck P	urchases 8	& Sales: Nu			
% Change vs Prior Year Purchases within Parish New Car/Truck Sales*	3QT-14	<u>4QT-14</u>	1,166 n/a 616 1,288	1,453 n/a 757 1,571	600 400	Ca	r/Truck P	urchases &	& Sales: Nu		2015 F	
% Change vs Prior Year Purchases within Parish	3QT-14	<u>4QT-14</u>	1,166 n/a 616	1,453 n/a 757	600	Ca	r/Truck P	urchases &	& Sales: Nu		2015 F	

Washington Parish

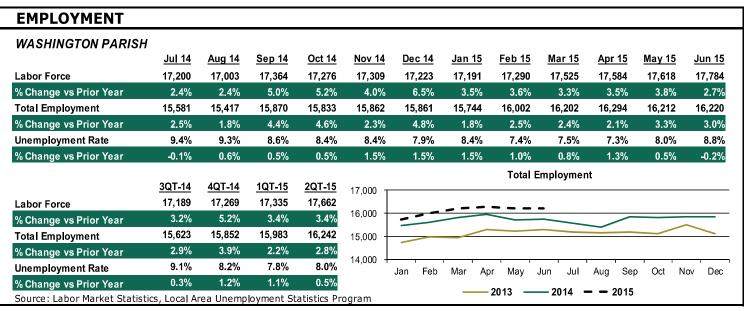
Total employment in Washington Parish in the second quarter of 2015 rose 2.8 percent compared to the second quarter of the previous year. The labor force rose 3.4 percent, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate to 8.0 percent from the 7.5 percent of 2Q2014.

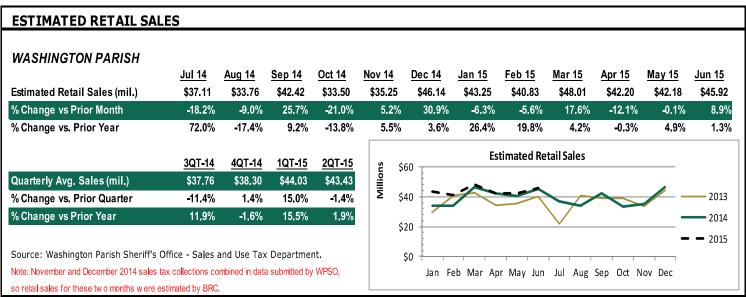
The value of taxable retail sales in 2Q2015 fell 1.4 percent from the previous quarter, but was 1.9 percent higher than in the second quarter of 2014.

Permits for 14 residential units were issued in 2Q2015, up 16.7 percent from 12 in 2Q2014.

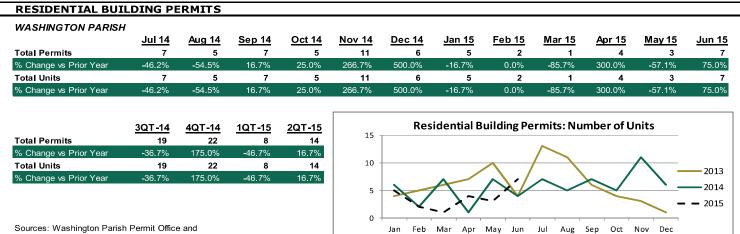
Washington Parish home sales in 2Q2015 were down 8.7 percent from 2Q2014, but the average price was up 9.5 percent, resulting in a year-over-year decline in total sales volume of 0.1 percent.

Washington Parish residents purchased 402 new cars and light trucks in the second quarter of 2015 — 45 from dealers within Washington Parish and 357 from outside the parish.

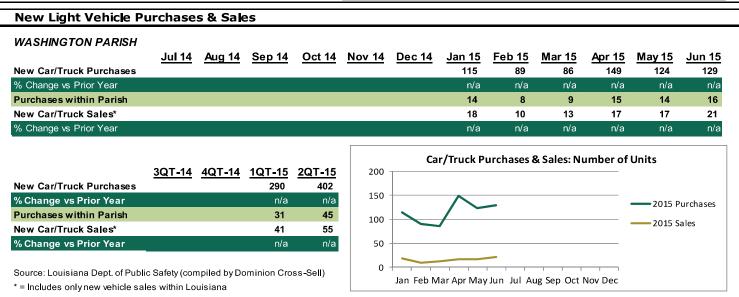




Washington Parish—continued



http://censtats.census.gov **RESIDENTIAL HOME SALES** WASHINGTON PARISH <u>Jul-14</u> Aug-14 Sep-14 Oct-14 Nov-14 Dec-14 Jan-15 Feb-15 Mar-15 Apr-15 May-15 Jun-15 **Number of Homes Sold** 16 10 14 10 12 13 7 17 11 19 14 15.4% 46.2% % Change vs Prior Year 0.0% 0.0% 9.1% 30.0% 41.7% -22.2% Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$1.8 \$0.5 \$1.3 \$0.7 \$0.6 \$1.1 \$0.8 \$0.8 \$1.0 \$0.5 \$1.3 \$1.4 % Change vs Prior Year 63.0% -38.8% 45.8% 16.6% 31.6% 3.4% -1.6% -58.0% 69.1% 6.7% Average Selling Price \$111,955 \$48,360 \$91,689 \$71,900 \$50,750 \$85,388 \$111,514 \$48,440 \$93,000 \$51,167 \$69,916 \$103,100 % Change vs Prior Year 52.8% -38.8% 45.8% -11.6% -23.6% -28.2% 16.3% -30.0% 4QT-14 3QT-14 1QT-15 2QT-15 Total Residential Home Sales Volume \$2.0 Number of Homes Sold 40 35 42 % Change vs Prior Year 6.1% -5.4% -8.7% \$1.5 2013 Total Sales Volume (mil.) \$3.6 \$2.4 \$2.6 \$3.2 \$1.0 2014 % Change vs Prior Year 28.5% 4.4% 0.9% \$0.5 **Average Selling Price** \$88,963 \$69,659 \$75,059 \$76,960 **-** 2015 % Change vs Prior Year \$0.0 Source: Based on information from the Gulf South Real Estate Information Network, Inc. Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec for the period 01/2013 to 06/2015.



SOUTHEASTERN

Southeastern grad student helps revitalize farmers market

When Ashton Herron was an undergraduate student in sociology at Southeastern Louisiana University, her interest in environmental sociology – including the important role locally produced food could play in a community – began to spark.

So when the opportunity came to see what a local food system looks like from "seed to table," Herron jumped at the chance to participate in an internship with Vintage Garden Farm, a program of ARC Enterprises in New Orleans.

While working with ARC Enterprises, Herron said that initial spark of interest grew stronger, and soon, she says, "I was like a freshly lit firecracker. I learned so much from the experience, such as how food is grown, processed and delivered to the consumer. It was a tremendous experience."

The experience gave her the background to apply for the open position of manager of the Hammond Farmer's Market.

A native of Central and now a graduate student in Southeastern's Applied Sociology program, Herron is now working as manager of the market. In her brief time at the market, she has enhanced it to create a weekly congregation of farmers, artists and other vendors. What was once a gathering of only a handful of vendors, the market now has over 25 participating vendors on any given weekend.

Herron is looking forward to the day when the market has a permanent facility in Hammond as opposed to its current location along the railroad tracks.

"This is now in the planning phase and would enable us to provide our community with farm fresh produce, plants, food, art and much more," she said. - (Article courtesy of Southeastern's Public Information Office.)







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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:

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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