

Economic Reporter

Promoting Economic Development in Southeast Louisiana

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NATIONAL

U.S. Economy

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The U. S. real gross domestic product rose at a 2.6 percent annual rate during the third quarter of 2010 and grew 3.2 percent since the third quarter of 2009.

Total civilian employment for the third quarter fell 0.1 percent compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

A survey of forecasters by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia predicts the U.S. economy to grow 2.7 percent, 2.5 percent, and 2.9 percent in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively.

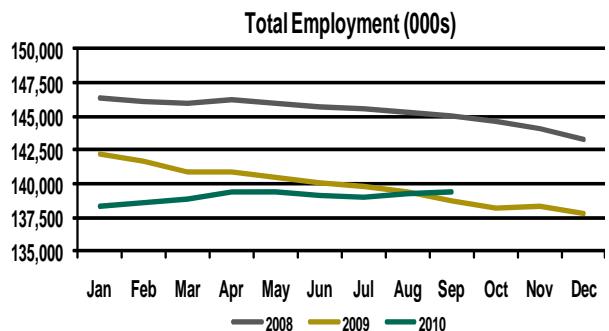
An alternative set of forecasts published by Wachovia Bank indicates gains of 2.9 percent, 2.7 percent, and 3.3 percent in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted)

UNITED STATES (Numbers in Thousands)

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	153,854	153,720	153,059	153,170	153,512	153,910	154,715	154,393	153,741	153,560	154,110	154,158
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.7%	-0.6%	-0.9%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.4%	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.2%	0.2%
Total Employment	138,242	138,381	137,792	138,333	138,641	138,905	139,455	139,420	139,119	138,960	139,250	139,391
% Change vs Prior Year	-4.4%	-4.0%	-3.9%	-2.7%	-2.1%	-1.4%	-1.0%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.6%	-0.1%	0.4%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	129,633	129,697	129,588	129,602	129,641	129,849	130,162	130,594	130,373	130,353	130,352	130,311
% Change vs Prior Year	-4.5%	-3.9%	-3.5%	-3.0%	-2.4%	-1.7%	-1.0%	-0.4%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
Unemployment Rate	10.1%	10.0%	10.0%	9.7%	9.7%	9.7%	9.9%	9.7%	9.5%	9.5%	9.6%	9.6%
% Change vs Prior Year	3.5%	3.2%	2.8%	2.0%	1.5%	1.1%	0.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	-0.1%	-0.3%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	153,544	153,531	154,283	153,943
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.3%	-0.2%
Total Employment	138,138	138,626	139,331	139,200
% Change vs Prior Year	-4.1%	-2.1%	-0.8%	-0.1%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	129,639	129,697	130,376	130,339
% Change vs Prior Year	-4.0%	-2.3%	-0.6%	0.2%
Unemployment Rate	10.0%	9.7%	9.7%	9.6%
% Change vs Prior Year	3.2%	1.5%	0.4%	-0.1%



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

STATE

Louisiana Economy

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Professor of Management

Total state employment for the third quarter of 2010 was 0.4 percent lower compared to the previous quarter but 1.4 percent above the level for the third quarter of 2009.

The unemployment rate for the third quarter was 7.5 percent, compared to 7.3 percent for the same quarter in 2009. The state experienced a rise in the unemployment rate in comparison to the previous quarter but was still significantly below the 9.6 percent national average.

State sales tax collections for the third quarter fell 10.5 percent compared to the prior quarter but were 5.3 percent higher than for the third quarter of 2009. This was the first year-over-year increase since the third quarter of 2008.

Louisiana's seasonally-adjusted personal income grew moderately in the third quarter of 2010, rising 0.8 percent over the prior quarter and 3.5 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009. The national average increase was 0.7 percent quarter over quarter and 3.6 percent over the past twelve months.

Separated into components, net earnings rose 1.1 percent during the third quarter of 2010, transfer receipts rose 1.5 percent, and dividends, interest, and rent fell 1.1 percent.

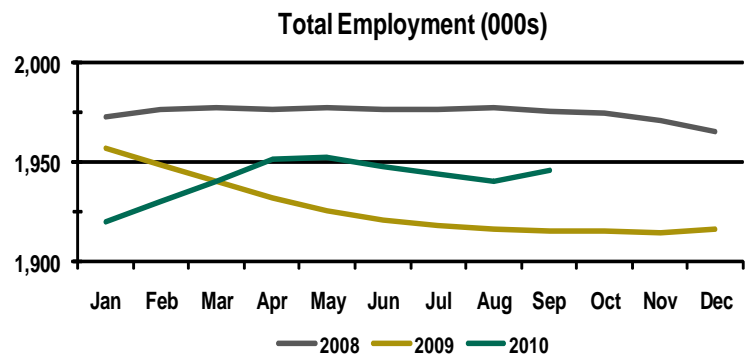
Louisiana's third quarter foreclosure activity increased 31.5 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, averaging 1,927 notices or listings per month in 3Q2010 versus 1,465 in 3Q2009 (data from RealtyTrac.com).

EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted)

LOUISIANA (Numbers in Thousands)

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	2,067	2,067	2,068	2,074	2,081	2,085	2,091	2,096	2,095	2,095	2,099	2,109
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.7%	-0.8%	-0.6%	-0.1%	0.5%	0.7%	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	2.1%
Total Employment	1,916	1,915	1,916	1,920	1,930	1,941	1,951	1,952	1,948	1,944	1,940	1,946
% Change vs Prior Year	-3.0%	-2.8%	-2.5%	-1.9%	-0.9%	0.0%	1.0%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%	1.6%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,889	1,886	1,880	1,884	1,888	1,888	1,889	1,900	1,903	1,905	1,905	1,903
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.8%	-2.8%	-3.0%	-2.3%	-1.8%	-1.5%	-1.1%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.8%	0.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	7.3%	7.3%	7.4%	7.3%	6.9%	6.7%	6.8%	7.0%	7.2%	7.6%	7.8%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%	1.7%	1.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.3%	0.4%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	2,067	2,080	2,094	2,101
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.7%	0.4%	1.3%	1.6%
Total Employment	1,916	1,930	1,951	1,943
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.8%	-0.9%	1.3%	1.4%
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1,885	1,886	1,898	1,904
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.8%	-1.9%	-0.4%	0.7%
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	7.2%	6.9%	7.5%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.2%



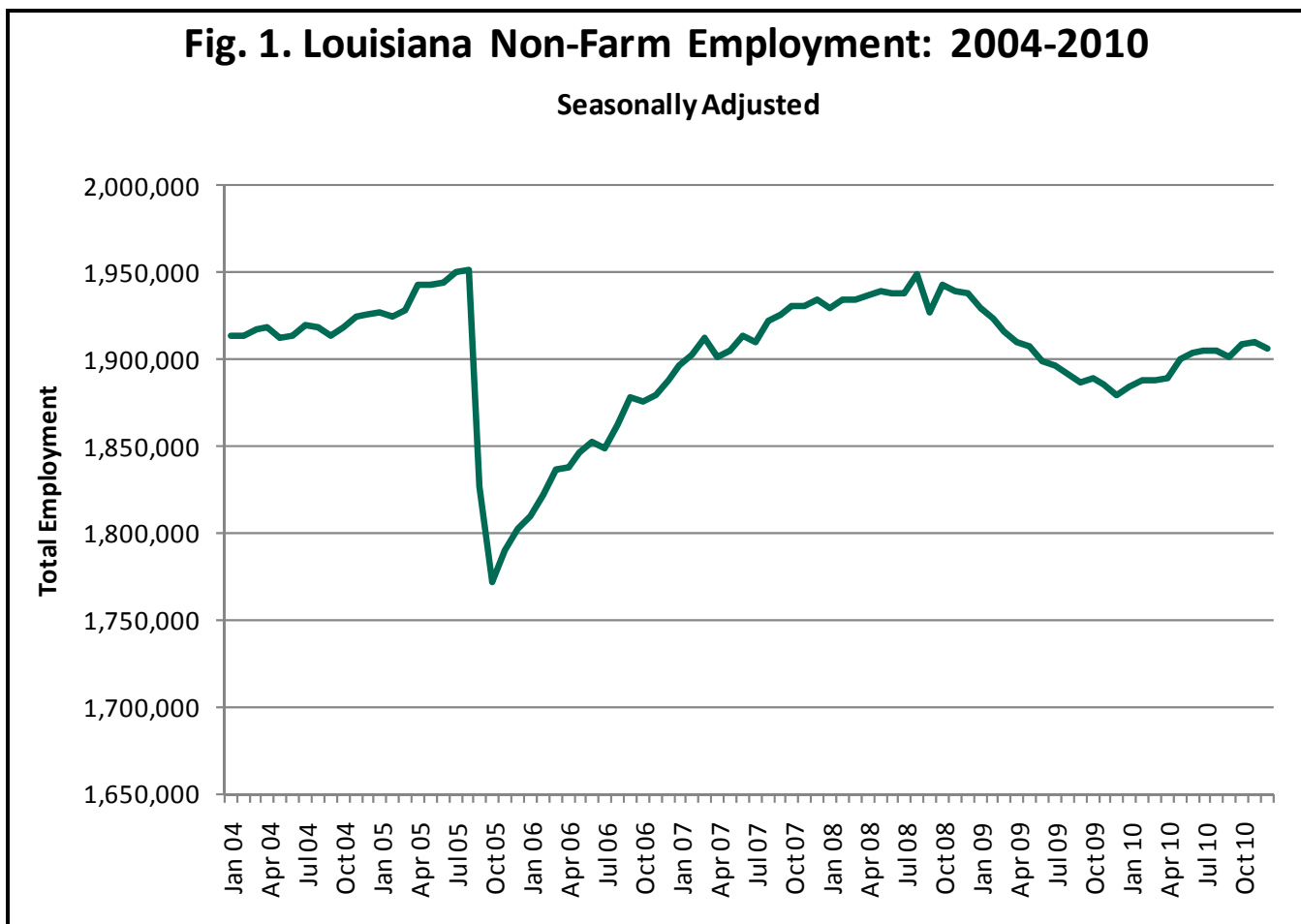
Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, Labor Market Statistics

Trends in Employment and Unemployment: Which Sectors and Occupations Have Suffered the Most in “The Great Recession”?

Herb Holloway
Research Economist

Louisiana’s total non-farm employment plummeted from 1.95 million in July 2005 to 1.77 million in October 2005, following the devastation and population exodus caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita in August and September 2005 (Figure 1).

Non-farm employment had finally almost recovered to its pre-“KatRita” level by August 2008 when the near collapse of the U.S. financial system ushered the nation and state into “The Great Recession”.



Louisiana’s seasonally-adjusted, non-farm employment declined by almost 58,000 jobs (3.0 percent) from December 2008 to its low point in December 2009, compared to a 3.5 percent drop for the U.S. From December 2009 to December 2010, Louisiana’s seasonally-adjusted, non-farm employment grew by 26,500 jobs (1.4 percent), while the equivalent measure for the U.S. increased a smaller 0.9 percent.

So Louisiana’s employment didn’t fall as far as that of the nation and has recovered more during 2010. However, employment in December 2010 was still 31,200 (1.6 percent) below where it was in December 2008.

Trends in Employment and Unemployment — *continued*

Hidden in these overall numbers are the differences in employment gains and losses by industry.

As shown in Figure 2, *Trade, Transportation, & Utilities* and *Total Government* are traditionally the two largest employment sectors in Louisiana, with each employing between 350,000 and 400,000 individuals. *Trade, Transportation, & Utilities* employment recovered more quickly after the storms of 2005, causing it to hold the top spot until August 2009, when recession-induced declines caused it to drop below the less-affected government sector.

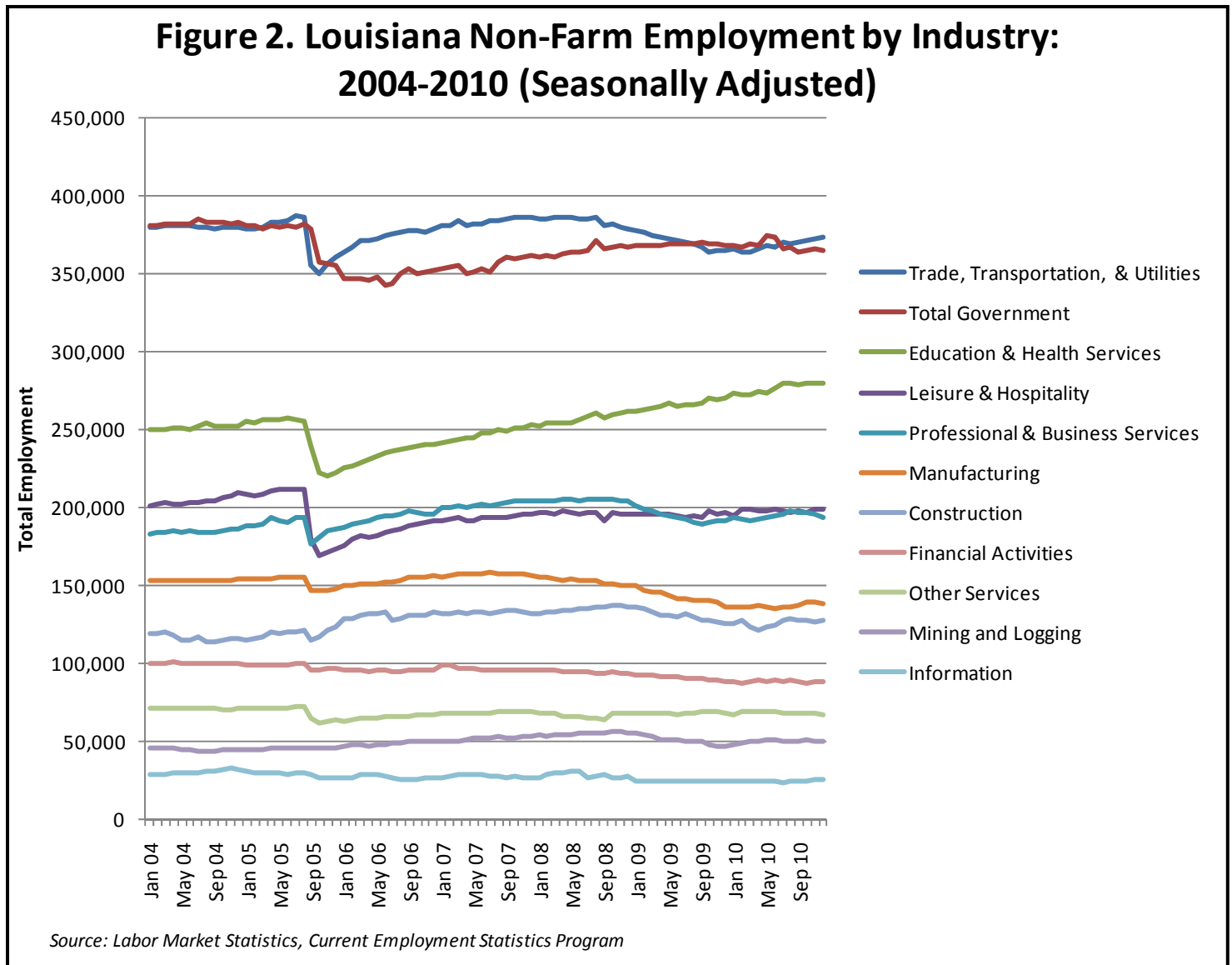
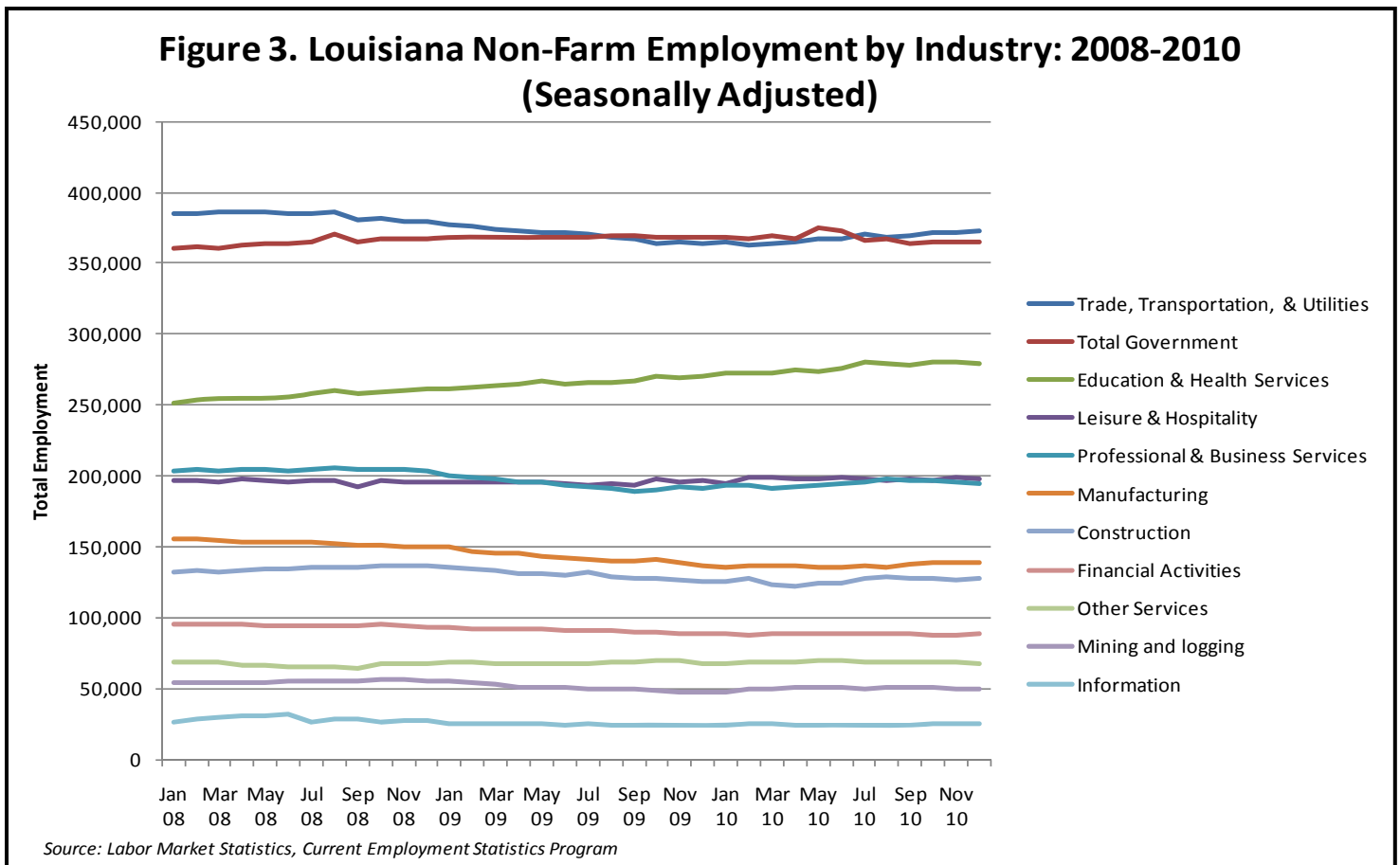


Figure 3 focuses on the 2008-2010 portion of Figure 2, allowing easier analysis of the effects of the economic downturn.

Trade, Transportation, & Utilities lost the most jobs from December 2008 to December 2009 (-14,700), while *Mining and Logging* (which includes oil and gas jobs) had the greatest percentage decline (-14.9 percent).

Trends in Employment and Unemployment — *continued*



Three sectors gained jobs during 2009—*Total Government* (+1,100), *Education & Health Services* (+9,400), and *Leisure & Hospitality* (+700). *Total Government* lost 3,200 jobs in 2010, while *Education & Health Services* and *Leisure & Hospitality* gained 8,700 and 1,900, respectively, making them the only two sectors to have a net increase in employment from December 2008 to December 2010 (Figures 4 & 5).

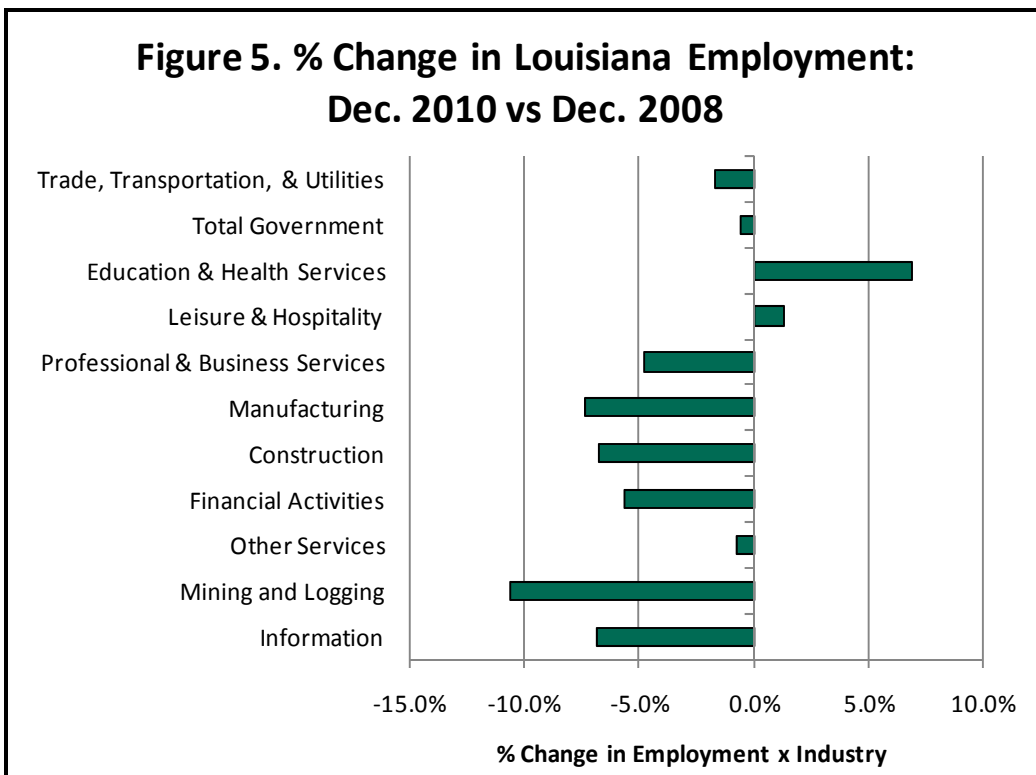
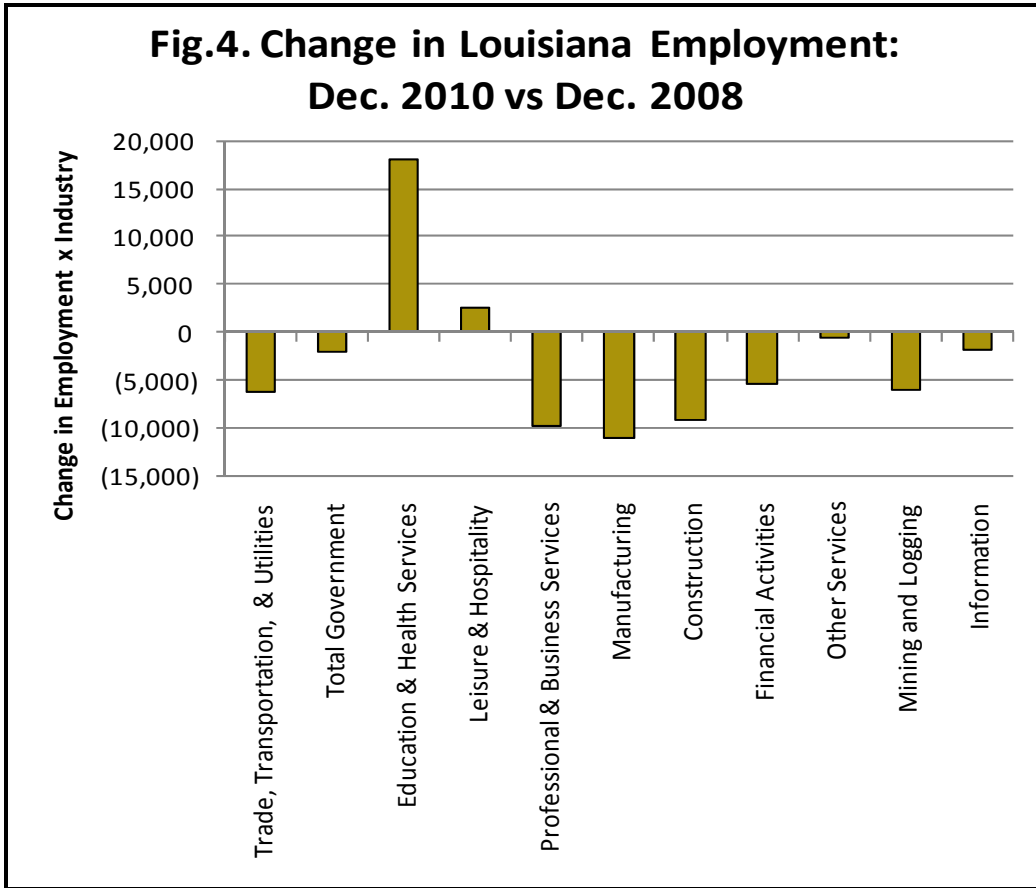
Education & Health Services and *Leisure & Hospitality* gained 18,100 and 2,600 jobs, respectively over the two year period (Figure 4). These represented respective increases of 6.9 percent and 1.3 percent (Figure 5).

Manufacturing lost the most jobs during the last two years, down 11,000, followed by *Professional and Business Services* (-9,700) and *Construction* (-9,200).

Mining and Logging had the greatest percentage decline (-10.6 percent), followed by *Manufacturing* (-7.3 percent), *Information* (-6.9 percent), and *Construction* (-6.7 percent).

The strong growth in *Education & Health Services* employment caused it to increase its share of total state non-farm employment from 13.5 percent in December 2008 to 14.6 percent in December 2010. *Leisure & Hospitality* increased from 10.1 to 10.4 percent, and *Total Government* from 18.9 to 19.1 percent. The shares for all other sectors were stable or declined.

Trends in Employment and Unemployment — *continued*



Trends in Employment and Unemployment — *continued*

Drilling down in the industry data

Although seasonally-adjusted data are only available for 2010 for the broad (two-digit NAICS code) sector designations discussed previously, non-seasonally-adjusted data are available for more defined sub-sector designations. Drilling down into the sub-sector data reveals wide variability of employment gains and losses within the larger sector groupings (Table 1). Note that Table 1 is based only on the sub-sectors for which data was available from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Program. Other sub-sectors may have had greater growth or declines than those listed.

Two-digit NAICS Sector	Employment Change	Sub-sector w/ greatest growth or smallest decline	Employment Change	Sub-sector w/ smallest growth or greatest decline	Employment Change
Education & Health Services	7.1%	Home Health Care Services	16.0%	Nursing Care Facilities	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	1.0%	Accommodation	5.1%	Amusement, Gambling, & Recr.	-4.6%
Total Government	-0.8%	Local Government	0.7%	State Government	-3.7%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-3.0%	Gasoline Stations	5.0%	Truck Transportation	-11.4%
Professional & Business Services	-5.6%	Legal Services	1.0%	Employment Services	-11.3%
Financial Activities	-6.2%	Depos. Credit Intermediation	-2.5%	Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	-10.0%
Construction	-7.6%	Specialty Trade Contractors	0.0%	Nonres. Bldg. Construction	-19.2%
Manufacturing	-8.1%	Petroleum & Coal Prods. Mfg.	0.0%	Transportation Equipment Mfg.	-18.7%
Mining and logging	-10.6%	Oil & Gas Extraction	-2.2%	Drilling Oil/Gas Wells	-31.1%

Source: Labor Market Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Program

Within the *Education and Health Services* sector, which had overall (non-adjusted) employment growth of 7.1 percent from 12/2008 to 12/2010, all reported sub-sectors showed positive employment growth over this period of national recession. Sub-sector growth ranged from 1.6 percent for *Nursing Care Facilities* to 16.0 percent (the highest of all reported sub-sectors) for *Home Health Care Services*.

In the *Leisure & Hospitality* sector, the other sector recording employment growth over this two-year period, sub-sector employment change ranged from +5.1 percent in the *Accommodation* sub-sector to -4.6 percent for the *Amusement, Gambling, & Recreation* sub-sector.

All of the nine two-digit sectors shown in Table 1 had at least one reported sub-sector with stable employment or growth except for *Financial Activities* and *Mining and Logging*, for which all reported sub-sectors showed employment declines. The most severe employment decline of any sub-sector was *Drilling Oil/Gas Wells* (within the *Mining and Logging* two-digit sector), which dropped 31.1 percent.

Unemployment Claims by Occupation

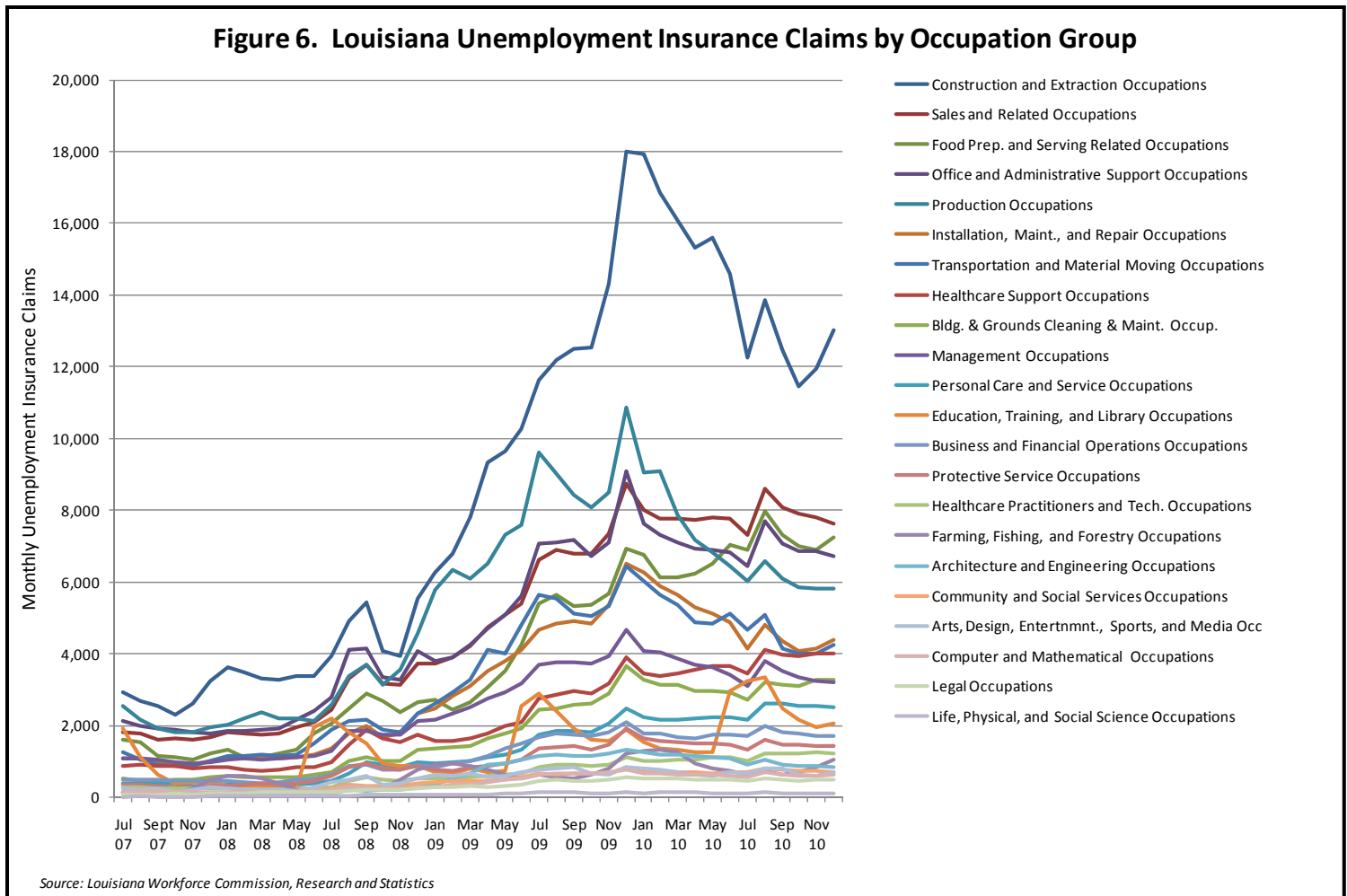
Each industry discussed in the previous sections may include numerous occupation types. For example, within the *Accommodations* sector would be employees with sales, office, maintenance, financial, and possibly food-service occupations.

In order to gain insight into which occupation types have been most impacted by the economic downturn, unemployment insurance claims for 22 occupation types as reported by the Louisiana Workforce Commission were analyzed to track trends and changes since the recession began.

Trends in Employment and Unemployment — *continued*

December 2007, when 17,309 unemployment claims were filed, was used as the pre-recession reference point. Claims began spiking upward in June 2008 (21,722) and peaked in December 2009, when 94,091 unemployment claims were filed, an increase of 444 percent from December 2007. By December 2010, monthly claims had fallen back somewhat to 73,040.

As illustrated in Figure 6, *Construction and Extraction Occupations* had the highest number of monthly claims throughout the 42-month period shown in the graph. These construction and oil/gas/mining occupations made up from 13.2 to 20.8 percent of monthly claims during the period shown.



Although a small portion of total claims, *Architecture and Engineering Occupations* showed the greatest increase in claims, up 1,242 percent from December 2007 to the peak in December 2009. The group showing the least percentage impact was *Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations*, with an increase in claims of 154 percent from December 2007 to December 2009.

Production Occupations had the greatest improvement in 2010, with unemployment claims down 46 percent, declining from 10,867 in December 2009 (2nd most) to 5,817 (5th most) in December 2010. Five sectors had increases in claims in 2010, led by *Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations* (+9.4 percent).

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 unchanged during the third quarter of 2010, but was 1.5 percent higher compared to the same period in 2009.

The total civilian work force rose 0.4 percent compared to the previous quarter and was 2.2 percent higher year-over-year. The unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2010 was 7.5 percent. In comparison, unemployment

rates were 7 percent in the previous quarter and 6.9 percent during the third quarter of 2009. The unemployment rate went up because the growth in the workforce outpaced the gains in employment.

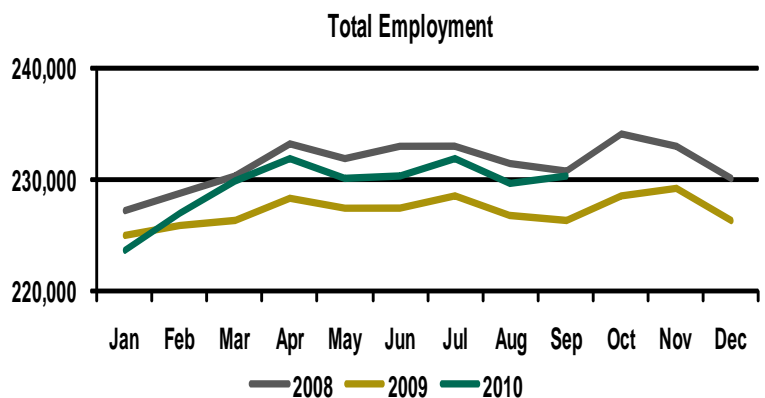
(Note: All regional and parish employment analyses are based on unadjusted employment data. Seasonally-adjusted data are not available at the parish level.)

EMPLOYMENT (Not seasonally adjusted)

NORTHSHORE REGION

	<u>Oct 09</u>	<u>Nov 09</u>	<u>Dec 09</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>	<u>Feb 10</u>	<u>Mar 10</u>	<u>Apr 10</u>	<u>May 10</u>	<u>Jun 10</u>	<u>Jul 10</u>	<u>Aug 10</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
Labor Force	244,422	243,960	241,917	242,253	242,215	243,827	246,306	247,316	250,558	249,461	248,481	248,955
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.4%	1.8%	2.1%	2.1%	1.8%	1.6%	1.9%	2.7%
Total Employment	228,703	229,275	226,306	223,677	227,019	229,935	232,041	230,193	230,311	231,863	229,702	230,428
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.3%	-1.6%	-1.7%	-0.6%	0.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	1.8%
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.2%	6.7%	7.7%	6.3%	5.9%	6.0%	6.9%	8.1%	7.3%	7.8%	7.4%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%	0.9%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%	0.9%

	<u>4QT-09</u>	<u>1QT-10</u>	<u>2QT-10</u>	<u>3QT-10</u>
Labor Force	243,433	242,765	248,060	248,966
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.2%	1.6%	2.0%	2.1%
Total Employment	228,095	226,877	230,848	230,664
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.9%	0.5%	1.3%	1.5%
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.6%	7.0%	7.5%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.6%	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

Economic Reporter

Estimated Retail Sales in the Northshore Region

Total value of taxable sales in the region fell 3.5 percent from the previous quarter. However, in comparison to the third quarter of 2009, taxable sales were up 0.3 percent.

All of the parishes except St. Helena saw declines in comparison to the previous quarter, and only three were higher year-over-year. The lowest

year-over-year gain occurred in St. Tammany Parish (0.1 percent), while the highest was experienced in Washington Parish (9 percent). St. Helena and Livingston parishes experienced declines year-over-year.

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

NORTHSHORE REGION

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$532.95	\$528.90	\$672.05	\$473.72	\$505.17	\$623.75	\$568.56	\$552.47	\$620.78	\$557.33	\$549.16	\$575.08
% Change vs Prior Month	-5.2%	-0.8%	27.1%	-29.5%	6.6%	23.5%	-8.8%	-2.8%	12.4%	-10.2%	-1.5%	4.7%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-10.6%	-5.6%	-9.9%	-13.9%	-7.4%	-3.2%	-4.5%	-5.1%	-0.1%	-1.6%	0.3%	2.3%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)	\$577.97			\$534.22			\$580.60			\$560.52		
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	3.4%			-7.6%			8.7%			-3.5%		
% Change vs Prior Year	-8.8%			-7.9%			-3.2%			0.3%		

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

Residential Building Permits in the Northshore Region

The value of residential building permits in the region for the third quarter of 2010 fell 12.5 percent over the prior quarter and 28.9 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, projecting a slowdown in construction activities in the coming months.

It should be noted that the value of permits in unincorporated St. Tammany Parish, unincorporated Livingston Parish, and all of St. Helena Parish are based on data (or estimates) provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

NORTHSHORE REGION

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	184	148	133	142	139	200	222	174	178	214	171	168
% Change vs Prior Year	-11.1%	-9.8%	-31.4%	-9.0%	11.2%	-29.3%	12.7%	-25.0%	-21.2%	-7.4%	-46.4%	-26.0%
Total Value (\$000s)	29,035	35,124	25,137	24,805	16,870	27,271	35,879	27,123	33,247	32,811	28,100	23,274
% Change vs Prior Year	-5.7%	46.1%	6.4%	5.8%	-16.4%	-42.6%	30.7%	-11.1%	-5.9%	6.1%	-49.4%	-27.1%
Unincorp. Units	160	127	126	132	121	176	212	157	168	185	168	156
% Change vs Prior Year	-15.3%	-15.9%	-31.9%	-8.3%	9.0%	-34.6%	21.1%	-29.0%	-19.2%	-7.0%	-41.5%	-24.6%
Uninc. Value (\$000s)	25,472	31,999	23,453	22,730	14,460	23,721	32,831	24,071	30,442	28,574	26,655	21,302
% Change vs Prior Year	-9.7%	48.1%	6.9%	3.3%	-19.3%	-47.3%	36.2%	-14.8%	-6.4%	8.5%	-46.7%	-27.9%
Incorporated Units	24	21	7	10	18	24	10	17	10	29	8	12
% Change vs Prior Year	33.3%	61.5%	-22.2%	-16.7%	28.6%	71.4%	-54.5%	54.5%	-44.4%	26.1%	-63.6%	33.3%
Inc. Value (\$000s)	3,562	3,125	1,684	2,075	2,410	3,550	3,048	3,052	2,805	4,236	2,621	1,972
% Change vs Prior Year	38.4%	28.3%	1.0%	45.1%	7.2%	39.8%	-8.9%	35.0%	1.1%	15.3%	-27.0%	98.7%

Sources: Livingston Parish -- Town of Albany, City of Denham Springs, Town of Livingston, Town of Walker, <http://censtats.census.gov>

St. Helena Parish -- <http://censtats.census.gov> (estimates with imputation)

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

Washington Parish -- Washington Parish Permit Office, City of Bogalusa, Town of Franklinton, <http://censtats.census.gov>

LOCAL

Livingston Parish

Livingston Parish enjoyed a 1.6 percent gain in employment compared to the third quarter of 2009. However, the labor force rose 2.3 percent, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate to 7.5 percent from 7.1 percent in the second quarter of 2010.

Sales tax collections fell 2.9 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, in contrast to a regional increase of 0.3 percent.

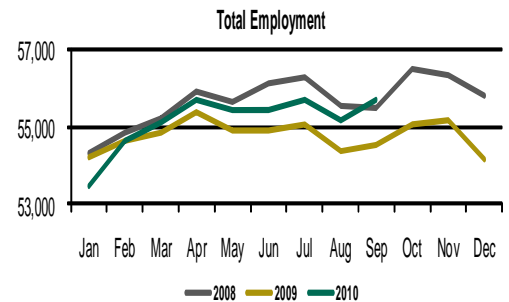
The value of residential building permits fell 36.6 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, based on data provided by local municipalities and the U.S. Census Bureau.

EMPLOYMENT

LIVINGSTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	58,747	58,755	58,070	57,968	58,354	58,581	59,252	59,653	60,330	60,045	59,779	60,201
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.5%	0.0%	-0.6%	1.2%	1.4%	1.1%	1.4%	2.2%	1.8%	1.5%	2.3%	3.2%
Total Employment	55,059	55,148	54,144	53,452	54,650	55,083	55,704	55,421	55,447	55,666	55,152	55,716
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.5%	-2.1%	-3.0%	-1.4%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.5%	2.2%
Unemployment Rate	6.3%	6.1%	6.8%	7.8%	6.3%	6.0%	6.0%	7.1%	8.1%	7.3%	7.7%	7.5%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.0%	2.0%	2.3%	2.5%	1.3%	0.7%	0.7%	1.2%	0.7%	0.3%	0.7%	0.9%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	58,524	58,301	59,745	60,008
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.4%	1.3%	1.8%	2.3%
Total Employment	54,784	54,395	55,524	55,511
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.5%	-0.3%	0.8%	1.6%
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.7%	7.1%	7.5%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.1%	1.5%	0.9%	0.6%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

LIVINGSTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$91.32	\$90.43	\$109.60	\$85.09	\$85.06	\$111.30	\$102.25	\$100.73	\$109.76	\$98.25	\$95.24	\$98.51
% Change vs Prior Month	-14.2%	-1.0%	21.2%	-22.4%	0.0%	30.8%	-8.1%	-1.5%	9.0%	-10.5%	-3.1%	3.4%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-14.8%	-6.2%	-20.8%	-15.3%	-11.4%	-5.5%	-2.7%	-1.5%	1.5%	2.0%	-2.8%	-7.4%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)	\$97.12			\$93.82			\$104.25			\$97.33		
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	-3.1%			-3.4%			11.1%			-6.6%		
% Change vs Prior Year	-14.8%			-10.4%			-0.9%			-2.9%		

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

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

LIVINGSTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	47	42	42	44	54	70	90	75	82	73	74	64
% Change vs Prior Year	-13.0%	5.0%	100.0%	-29.0%	68.8%	-52.7%	28.6%	-27.2%	-26.1%	28.1%	-60.8%	18.5%
Total Value (\$000s)	8,483	4,803	4,955	5,531	6,536	8,432	13,354	11,239	12,551	11,322	10,825	9,385
% Change vs Prior Year	-10.9%	-36.4%	32.8%	-49.0%	13.1%	-67.8%	48.5%	-13.0%	-10.7%	63.1%	-67.8%	2.0%
Unincorp. Units	43	41	42	41	45	63	89	75	79	73	74	64
% Change vs Prior Year	-14.0%	13.9%	121.1%	-31.7%	50.0%	-56.6%	43.5%	-26.5%	-27.5%	32.7%	-58.7%	33.3%
Uninc. Value (\$000s)	7,745	4,703	4,955	4,837	5,309	7,432	13,254	11,239	11,712	10,568	10,713	9,385
% Change vs Prior Year	-12.2%	-26.0%	47.8%	-54.3%	0.3%	-70.9%	70.1%	-12.3%	-14.5%	62.9%	-66.8%	8.6%
Incorporated Units	4	1	0	3	9	7	1	0	3	0	0	0
% Change vs Prior Year	0.0%	-75.0%	-100.0%	50.0%	350.0%	133.3%	-87.5%	-100.0%	50.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%
Inc. Value (\$000s)	738	100	0	694	1,227	1,000	100	0	840	754	112	0
% Change vs Prior Year	6.0%	-91.7%	-100.0%	159.1%	151.8%	60.8%	-91.7%	-100.0%	136.5%	66.5%	-91.9%	-100.0%

Sources: La Dept. of Econ. Dev., Livingston Parish Permit Office, Town of Albany, City of Denham Springs, Town of Livingston, Town of Walker, <http://censtats.census.gov>

Note: Valuation estimation procedure discontinued by Livingston Parish Permit Office after June 2008. Unincorporated values from July 2008 to June 2009 are based on data by the La. Dept. of Economic Development or U.S. Census Bureau. Units and values from July 2009 forward are from U.S. Census Bureau. Comparisons to prior periods

Economic Reporter

St. Helena Parish

Employment in St. Helena in the third quarter of 2010 rose 1.6 percent compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The work force grew by a greater amount (+4.1 percent), leading to an increase in the unemployment rate. The rate climbed to 14.1 percent, up from 12.1 percent for the previous quarter and the highest in the region.

Sales tax collections were up 3.8 percent over the previous quarter, but fell 5 percent year over year, while the region as a whole experienced a slight gain.

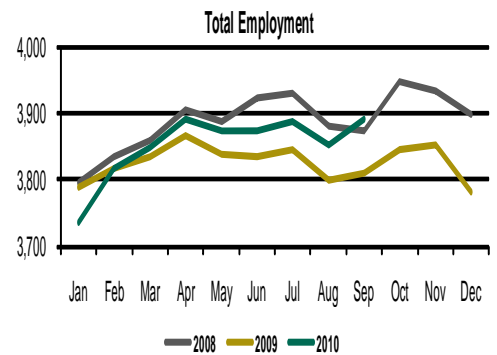
The Census Bureau's estimated value of building permits in St. Helena rose 156.8 percent over the past twelve months. (Actual building permit data is not available from St. Helena Parish.)

EMPLOYMENT

ST. HELENA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	4,304	4,322	4,303	4,297	4,297	4,281	4,314	4,388	4,531	4,525	4,526	4,497
% Change vs Prior Year	-10.7%	-10.4%	-12.1%	1.3%	2.7%	-8.4%	-8.1%	-9.0%	-11.9%	-11.5%	-11.1%	-9.3%
Total Employment	3,847	3,853	3,783	3,735	3,818	3,849	3,892	3,872	3,874	3,889	3,853	3,893
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.5%	-2.1%	-3.0%	-1.5%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.4%	2.2%
Unemployment Rate	10.6%	10.9%	12.1%	13.1%	11.1%	10.1%	9.8%	11.8%	14.5%	14.1%	14.9%	13.4%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.2%	2.4%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	2.5%	2.2%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	4,310	4,292	4,411	4,516
% Change vs Prior Year	0.1%	2.0%	2.7%	4.1%
Total Employment	3,828	3,801	3,879	3,878
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.5%	-0.3%	0.8%	1.6%
Unemployment Rate	11.2%	11.4%	12.1%	14.1%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.4%	2.0%	1.6%	2.1%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

ST. HELENA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$5.82	\$4.18	\$6.20	\$3.74	\$4.42	\$5.35	\$4.85	\$5.02	\$5.49	\$4.41	\$6.19	\$5.35
% Change vs Prior Month	-11.3%	-28.3%	48.6%	-39.7%	18.1%	21.1%	-9.3%	3.5%	9.3%	-19.6%	40.3%	-13.5%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-10.5%	-32.7%	-32.2%	-28.4%	-7.7%	-8.5%	12.1%	-5.0%	11.4%	-16.8%	25.6%	-18.5%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)			\$5.40			\$4.50			\$5.12			\$5.32
% Change vs. Prior Quarter			-3.5%			-16.6%			13.7%			3.8%
% Change vs Prior Year			-25.9%			-14.8%			5.7%			-5.0%

Source: Sales tax collections from St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office expanded using tax rate of .05 (5%)

Sept and Oct 2009 = EST MATED by BRC based on combined Sept/Oct collections.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

ST. HELENA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	-	-	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	2	2
% Change vs Prior Year	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	200.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total Value (\$000s)	-	-	150	150	150	150	578	385	385	385	385	385
% Change vs Prior Year	-100.0%	-100.0%	18.0%	18.0%	18.0%	18.0%	285.3%	156.8%	156.8%	156.8%	156.8%	156.8%

Source: <http://censtats.census.gov> (estimates with imputation)

St. Tammany Parish

Total employment in St. Tammany Parish in the third quarter of 2010 rose 2.4 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, exceeding the average gain in the region. The workforce increased by 2.6 percent and the unemployment rate was 5.9 percent, the lowest in the region.

Retail sales rose 0.1 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, a gain that was below the regional average.

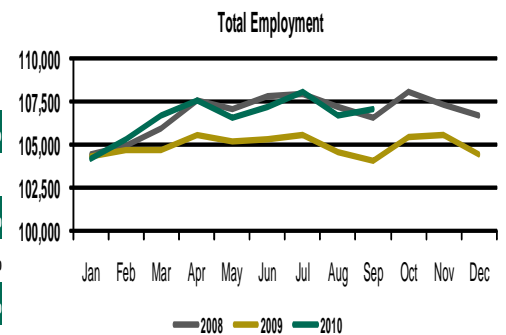
The value of building permits fell 17.5 percent over the previous quarter and was also 17.5 percent lower than in the third quarter of 2009, pointing to a future decline in construction activities.

EMPLOYMENT

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	111,465	111,347	110,354	111,086	110,933	111,998	113,050	112,793	114,510	114,565	113,829	113,775
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.1%	-0.4%	-1.0%	1.2%	1.0%	1.8%	2.2%	1.7%	1.8%	2.2%	2.3%	3.3%
Total Employment	105,493	105,652	104,491	104,262	105,358	106,744	107,572	106,591	107,207	108,126	106,757	107,098
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.4%	-1.6%	-2.1%	-0.1%	0.7%	1.9%	1.9%	1.3%	1.7%	2.4%	2.0%	2.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.1%	5.3%	6.1%	5.0%	4.7%	4.8%	5.5%	6.4%	5.6%	6.2%	5.9%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.3%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	0.3%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.4%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	111,055	111,339	113,451	114,056
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.8%	1.3%	1.9%	2.6%
Total Employment	105,212	105,455	107,123	107,327
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.0%	0.8%	1.7%	2.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	5.3%	5.6%	5.9%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$279.63	\$285.33	\$366.98	\$250.72	\$267.90	\$327.86	\$304.82	\$293.56	\$330.64	\$298.87	\$290.48	\$307.58
% Change vs Prior Month	-8.0%	2.0%	28.6%	-31.7%	6.8%	22.4%	-7.0%	-3.7%	12.6%	-9.6%	-2.8%	5.9%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-11.1%	-8.1%	-8.7%	-13.5%	-5.6%	-3.8%	-2.7%	-5.9%	-1.8%	-0.9%	0.0%	1.2%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)	\$310.65			\$282.16			\$309.68			\$298.98		
% Change vs. Prior Quarter	4.0%			-9.2%			9.8%			-3.5%		
% Change vs Prior Year	-9.2%			-7.4%			-3.4%			0.1%		

Source: Sales tax collections from St. Tammany Parish Sales and Use Tax Department expanded using an average tax rate of .04825 (4.825%)

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	53	51	50	51	51	56	77	46	39	52	53	55
% Change vs Prior Year	26.2%	64.5%	-37.5%	-5.6%	54.5%	-12.5%	102.6%	15.0%	-20.4%	4.0%	-15.9%	-11.3%
Total Value (\$000s)	11,045	22,988	14,480	11,164	5,575	10,980	15,357	9,035	11,693	11,301	9,920	8,535
% Change vs Prior Year	40.3%	248.2%	62.0%	49.5%	-12.5%	-16.5%	121.9%	30.1%	5.8%	10.1%	-28.0%	-14.1%
Unincorp. Units	42	43	44	44	46	50	70	39	35	47	50	53
% Change vs Prior Year	20.0%	48.3%	-39.7%	-4.3%	64.3%	-10.7%	118.8%	11.4%	-5.4%	20.5%	-13.8%	-10.2%
Uninc. Value (\$000s)	9,269	21,328	12,896	9,783	4,714	9,430	12,558	6,816	10,019	10,016	8,587	8,089
% Change vs Prior Year	35.1%	242.4%	68.6%	50.3%	-10.9%	-18.7%	107.8%	20.9%	10.6%	23.5%	-30.8%	-14.8%
Incorporated Units	11	8	6	7	5	6	7	7	4	5	3	2
% Change vs Prior Year	57.1%	300.0%	-14.3%	-12.5%	0.0%	-25.0%	16.7%	40.0%	-66.7%	-54.5%	-40.0%	-33.3%
Inc. Value (\$000s)	1,776	1,660	1,584	1,381	861	1,550	2,799	2,219	1,674	1,285	1,333	446
% Change vs Prior Year	75.6%	345.0%	22.8%	44.6%	-20.3%	-0.2%	219.0%	69.9%	-16.3%	-40.4%	-2.5%	1.9%

Sources: 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> (some data estimated)

Economic Reporter

Tangipahoa Parish

Employment in Tangipahoa Parish in the third quarter of 2010 rose 0.3 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009. A larger increase in the work force (+1.7 percent) caused the unemployment rate to rise from 8.7 percent in the second quarter to 9.5 percent in the third quarter, exceeding the regional average of 7 percent.

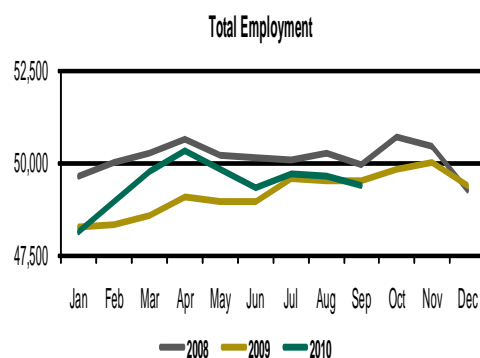
Retail sales rose 1.7 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, a greater gain than the average for the region.

The value of building permits rose 2.9 percent from the previous quarter but fell 34.5 percent compared to the third quarter of 2009, reflecting an uncertain outlook for construction.

TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	53,878	53,925	53,709	53,116	52,987	53,637	54,227	54,505	54,939	54,868	54,985	54,458
% Change vs Prior Year	0.1%	0.8%	2.1%	2.2%	2.6%	2.9%	3.4%	3.3%	2.2%	1.2%	1.7%	1.5%
Total Employment	49,793	49,980	49,373	48,141	48,934	49,778	50,289	49,805	49,324	49,699	49,608	49,344
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.8%	-0.9%	0.2%	-0.2%	1.3%	2.5%	2.5%	1.7%	0.8%	0.3%	0.2%	-0.3%
Unemployment Rate	7.6%	7.3%	8.1%	9.4%	7.6%	7.2%	7.3%	8.6%	10.2%	9.4%	9.8%	9.4%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	2.1%	1.3%	0.4%	0.7%	1.4%	1.2%	0.8%	1.3%	1.6%

	4Q7-09	1Q7-10	2Q7-10	3Q7-10
Labor Force	53,837	53,247	54,557	54,770
% Change vs Prior Year	1.0%	2.6%	2.9%	1.5%
Total Employment	49,715	48,951	49,806	49,550
% Change vs Prior Year	-0.8%	1.2%	1.7%	0.1%
Unemployment Rate	7.7%	8.1%	8.7%	9.5%
% Change vs Prior Year	1.7%	1.3%	1.1%	1.3%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$119.75	\$115.52	\$149.88	\$107.88	\$119.29	\$141.94	\$127.98	\$123.55	\$140.14	\$124.99	\$129.05	\$130.22
% Change vs Prior Month	-6.4%	-3.5%	29.7%	-28.0%	10.6%	19.0%	-9.8%	-3.5%	13.4%	-10.8%	3.2%	0.9%
% Change vs. Prior Year	-8.7%	-5.3%	-7.8%	-12.4%	-2.5%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-4.3%	0.2%	-1.3%	4.6%	1.8%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)			\$128.38			\$123.04			\$130.56			\$128.09
% Change vs. Prior Quarter			1.9%			-4.2%			6.1%			-1.9%
% Change vs Prior Year			-7.4%			-5.1%			-2.3%			1.7%

Source: Sales tax collections from the Tangipahoa Parish School Board - Sales and Use Tax Division expanded using a tax rate of .02 (2%)

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

TANGIPAHOA PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	78	47	34	37	28	69	46	47	49	77	35	44
% Change vs Prior Year	-22.0%	-47.2%	-59.5%	19.4%	-41.7%	11.3%	-47.7%	-43.4%	0.0%	-32.5%	-37.5%	-55.6%
Total Value (\$000s)	8,852	6,151	4,740	7,060	3,901	7,279	5,942	6,099	7,058	8,616	6,310	4,718
% Change vs Prior Year	-22.9%	-35.4%	-51.8%	74.0%	-39.5%	4.1%	-47.8%	-37.8%	-13.1%	-32.0%	3.7%	-58.0%
Unincorp. Units	69	35	34	37	26	58	45	38	46	56	35	34
% Change vs Prior Year	-26.6%	-58.8%	-59.5%	19.4%	-39.5%	-3.3%	-43.8%	-51.9%	2.2%	-46.2%	-28.6%	-65.7%
Uninc. Value (\$000s)	7,803	4,786	4,740	7,060	3,686	6,279	5,856	5,330	6,766	6,569	6,310	3,192
% Change vs Prior Year	-27.0%	-46.2%	-51.8%	74.0%	-37.0%	-7.5%	-42.1%	-41.8%	-12.1%	-43.4%	20.2%	-71.6%
Incorporated Units	9	12	0	0	2	11	1	9	3	21	5	10
% Change vs Prior Year	50.0%	200.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-60.0%	450.0%	-87.5%	125.0%	-25.0%	110.0%	-28.6%	0.0%
Inc. Value (\$000s)	1,049	1,365	0	0	215	1,000	87	769	292	2,048	1,176	1,526
% Change vs Prior Year	32.4%	115.3%	0.0%	0.0%	-64.4%	387.8%	-93.2%	18.3%	-30.6%	92.0%	40.2%	0.0%

Sources: Tangipahoa Parish Permit Office, City of Hammond, and City of Ponchatoula

Washington Parish

Total employment in Washington Parish in the third quarter of 2010 fell 0.8 percent compared to the third quarter of the previous year. The size of the labor force was unchanged, resulting in an unemployment rate of 10.3 percent, significantly higher than the regional average of 7.5 percent.

Sales tax collections were 9 percent higher compared to the third quarter of the previous year, a significantly larger increase than the regional average growth of 0.3 percent.

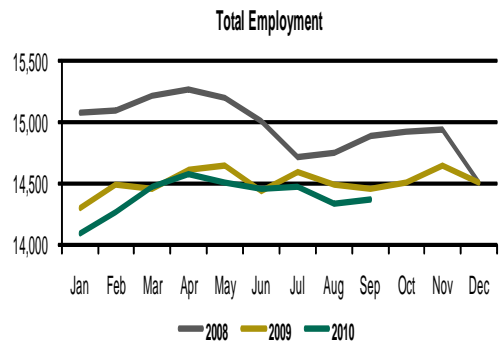
The value of building permits fell 18.5 percent from the prior quarter and 49.9 percent in comparison to the third quarter of 2009.

EMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Labor Force	16,028	16,080	16,001	15,786	15,644	15,762	15,885	15,977	16,248	16,094	16,035	16,024
% Change vs Prior Year	0.3%	0.8%	2.5%	1.9%	0.2%	0.8%	0.6%	0.1%	0.8%	-0.5%	-0.2%	0.6%
Total Employment	14,511	14,642	14,515	14,087	14,259	14,481	14,584	14,504	14,459	14,483	14,332	14,377
% Change vs Prior Year	-2.8%	-2.0%	0.1%	-1.5%	-1.6%	0.2%	-0.2%	-1.0%	0.1%	-0.8%	-1.1%	-0.6%
Unemployment Rate	9.5%	8.9%	9.3%	10.8%	8.9%	8.1%	8.2%	9.2%	11.0%	10.0%	10.6%	10.3%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.9%	2.7%	2.2%	3.1%	1.7%	0.6%	0.7%	1.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.8%	1.1%

	4QT-09	1QT-10	2QT-10	3QT-10
Labor Force	16,036	15,731	16,037	16,051
% Change vs Prior Year	1.2%	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Total Employment	14,556	14,276	14,516	14,397
% Change vs Prior Year	-1.6%	-1.0%	-0.4%	-0.8%
Unemployment Rate	9.2%	9.2%	9.5%	10.3%
% Change vs Prior Year	2.6%	1.8%	0.8%	0.7%



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES

WASHINGTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Est. Retail Sales (Mil.)	\$36.43	\$33.45	\$39.38	\$26.30	\$28.50	\$37.30	\$28.65	\$29.60	\$34.75	\$30.79	\$28.20	\$33.42
% Change vs Prior Month	109.0%	-8.2%	17.7%	-33.2%	8.4%	30.9%	-23.2%	3.3%	17.4%	-11.4%	-8.4%	18.5%
% Change vs. Prior Year	0.3%	32.5%	17.5%	-16.7%	-26.3%	1.9%	-29.9%	-12.4%	9.6%	-16.0%	-8.2%	91.7%
Quarterly Average Sales (Mil.)			\$36.42			\$30.70			\$31.00			\$30.80
% Change vs. Prior Quarter			28.8%			-15.7%			1.0%			-0.6%
% Change vs Prior Year			14.9%			-13.8%			-12.6%			9.0%

Source: Washington Parish Sheriff's Office - Sales and Use Tax Department. Sept. 2009 collections down partially due to office closures and staff layoffs in October 2009.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

WASHINGTON PARISH

	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10
Total Units	6	8	6	9	5	4	6	4	6	10	7	3
% Change vs Prior Year	-33.3%	166.7%	-25.0%	12.5%	-54.5%	-50.0%	0.0%	-20.0%	-62.5%	11.1%	-30.0%	-72.7%
Total Value (\$000s)	655	1,182	812	900	708	430	648	365	1,560	1,187	660	250
% Change vs Prior Year	-60.5%	413.9%	-17.1%	-3.4%	-50.8%	-59.7%	0.0%	-47.9%	-19.4%	30.0%	-64.7%	-82.2%
Unincorp. Units	6	8	5	9	3	4	5	3	6	7	7	3
% Change vs Prior Year	-25.0%	0.0%	-37.5%	50.0%	-66.7%	-42.9%	0.0%	-25.0%	-62.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Uninc. Value (\$000s)	655	1,182	712	900	602	430	585	300	1,560	1,037	660	250
% Change vs Prior Year	-58.7%	0.0%	-27.3%	24.1%	-55.9%	-52.6%	0.0%	-39.5%	-19.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Incorporated Units	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	3	0	0
% Change vs Prior Year	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Inc. Value (\$000s)	0	0	100	0	106	0	63	65	0	150	0	0
% Change vs Prior Year	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	-100.0%	41.3%	-100.0%	0.0%	-68.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Sources: Washington Parish Permit Office

Economic Reporter

SOUTHEASTERN LSBDC

Southeastern LSBDC and partners to host women in business event

The Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC) at Southeastern Louisiana University, along with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center and Women's Business Enterprise Council South, will offer the seminar "Maximizing Your Woman-Owned Business Ownership in the Federal Government Marketplace."

The seminar is scheduled Thursday, March 3, from 9 a.m. to noon in Walker at the Livingston Parish Literacy and Technology Center.

"Women business owners should seek to leverage the opportunities available through the federal government to drive revenue growth," said Sandy Summers, assistant director of the Southeastern SBDC. "This event will address critical areas that women business owners should address when competing in the federal government marketplace."

Summers said topics address women-owned business federal government contract set-asides; WOB certification process, recognition and opportunities, business continuity and risk management, developing effective responses to government proposals, and helpful hints on writing winning proposals.

There is no cost to attend the event; however, pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register, contact the LSBDC at 985-549-3831 or lsbdc.slu@lsbdc.org. Online registration is available at www.lsbdc.org or www.selu.edu/sbdc.

(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:

**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**