

St. Mary Parish Economic Development News

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Frank's Message

St. Mary Parish continues its economic development project expansions that began back in 2013. The Port of West St. Mary received \$3 million in capital outlay to begin construction of its infrastructure on its Highway 90 Industrial Park site. Plans are to build a public dock, access roads and utilities. Completion is slated for 1st quarter of 2015. Plans also call for the construction of a new welding school at the site.

LAD Services launched their first oil tank barge (55'x 300') in September. Their operations are at the former Superior Fabricators in Baldwin. Metal Shark completed the construction of their 60,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility, also on the Charenton Navigation and Drainage Canal. Production has begun on larger vessels up to 300 ft. in length for military and commercial markets.

Danos, a Larose based oil and gas service company announced the expansion of their fabrication capabilities with a 120,000 sq. ft. facility in Assumption Parish that will eventually hire 150 new employees. The new facility will begin operations in October and is located on 45 acres of waterfront property on Bayou Boeuf, across from Amelia. This strategic location provides direct access to the Gulf of Mexico and will allow Danos to handle projects of 500 tons and greater.

Construction began in Morgan City on a Walmart Neighborhood Market. The market will concentrate on grocery products, meats and produce.

Swiftships Shipbuilding, LLC received an \$18 million contract to maintain and support Iraqi Patrol Boats, offshore vessels and defender boats. The Naval Sea Systems Command says the work is to be done by October 2015 at the OMM QASR Naval Base.

Parish Economic Development Briefs

Requests for the Chamber of Commerce's rental housing list in August was 363, the highest number since April 2013. Employment for the three (3) month period ending in July was up 531 jobs compared to the previous three (3) month period ending in April.

July's unemployment rate of 6.6% was .8 points lower than one year ago; and the size of the labor force (those available for work) has grown by 1,237 since January. Parish employment was up to 22,112 the highest level since October 2012. The State unemployment rate in July was 6.2%, the nation's unemployment rate was 6.5%.

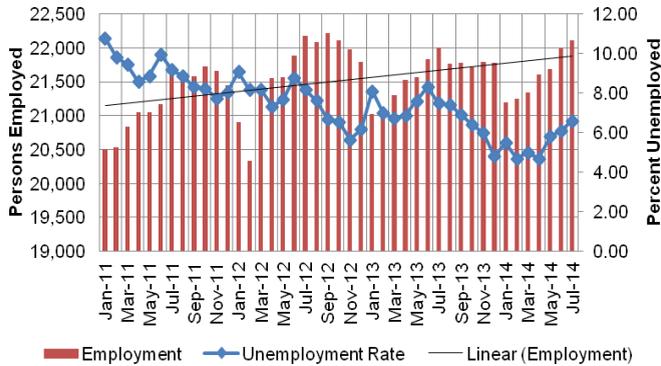
The number of businesses visited by parish staff this past quarter was 18. The number of projects in the pipeline totaled 19 with the potential to create more than a 600-700 new jobs and investments of \$220 million through 2015. It should be noted that 600-700 direct jobs are likely to produce 300 indirect jobs as suppliers, job shops and commercial businesses gear up for the increased demand.



Economic Facts and Figures

Resident Employment/Unemployment

January 2011 to July 2014
Louisiana Workforce Commission

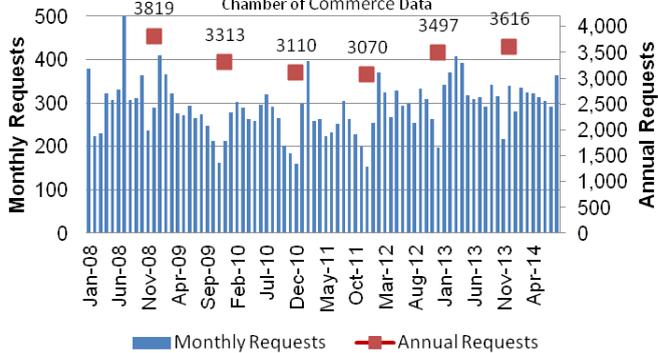


Parish Resident Labor Force v.s. Parish Workforce January 2011 to July 2014



Requests for Rental Housing Listings 2008- Aug 2014

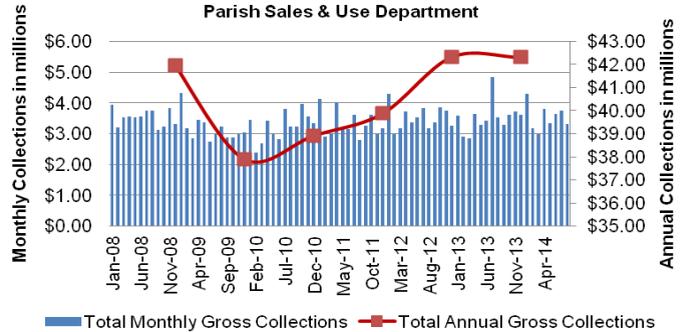
Chamber of Commerce Data



Parish Gross Tax Collections

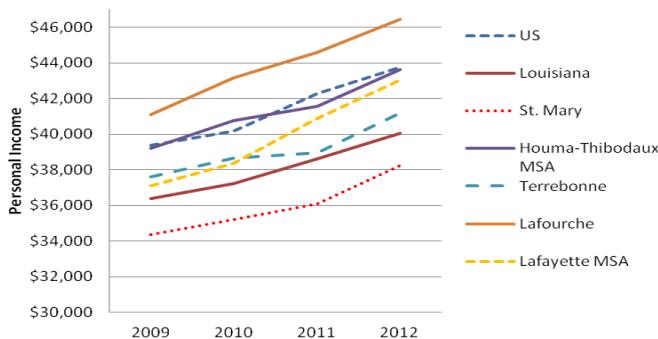
2008 to August 2014

Parish Sales & Use Department



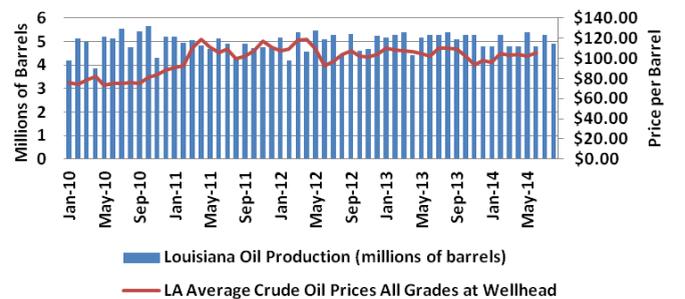
Per Capita Personal Income 2009-2012

US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis



Louisiana Oil Production and Price 2010 to August 2014 Excluding OCS

LA DNR



Got a comment, send us an email or call:

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