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Metropolitan Report - August 2010

Division of Business and Economic Research, College of Business Administration, University of New Orleans

METROPOLITAN REPORT
Economic Indicators for the New Orleans Area

Division of Business and Economic Research, University of New Orleans

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The New Orleans metropolitan area has achieved significant recovery during the past five years. Despite the pessimistic expectations for the local economy after Katrina, and even though the effects can still be seen, New Orleans has found its way to recovery.

- As of April 2010, New Orleans employment reached a total of 519,600 jobs. Over the five years, 93,800 jobs have been gained and retained, leaving employment at 86% of pre-Katrina figures. Still, about 85,000 jobs need to be recovered before New Orleans can reach employment levels prior the hurricane.

- Population fell from 1.3 million people just before Katrina, to a low point of about 670,000 in autumn 2005. Five years later, population stands at approximately 1.2 million reaching 91% of pre-Katrina levels. The overall recovery shows that population has outgrown employment nearly by 5 percentage points.

- After five years, several industries have been struggling to reach pre-Katrina employment levels. Some of the most affected include gambling (35% of pre-Katrina levels), information (61%), arts and entertainment (75%), financial services (75%), administrative waste management (77%), and manufacturing of transportation equipment (77%).

- Industries that have reached and exceeded pre-Katrina employment levels include educational services (105% of pre-Katrina levels), professional and technical services (101%), and construction (100%).

- Private health care employment had a sizeable recovery since last year, reaching 88% of pre-Katrina values. Similarly, private education employment recovered substantially during the last three years reaching 105% of pre-Katrina jobs.

- The dollar value of construction contracts, in both non-building (roads, bridges, levees and flood control projects) and commercial building, are still more than twice their pre-Katrina levels (256% and 254%, respectively). Residential construction has slowed and is one of the lowest ranking indicators at 51% of pre-Katrina levels.

- Tourism struggled and was the most damaged industry during the first two years after Katrina. Though tourism has showed improvement in the last three years, the national recession has kept it from attaining its full potential.

THE NEW ORLEANS AREA ECONOMY OVERVIEW

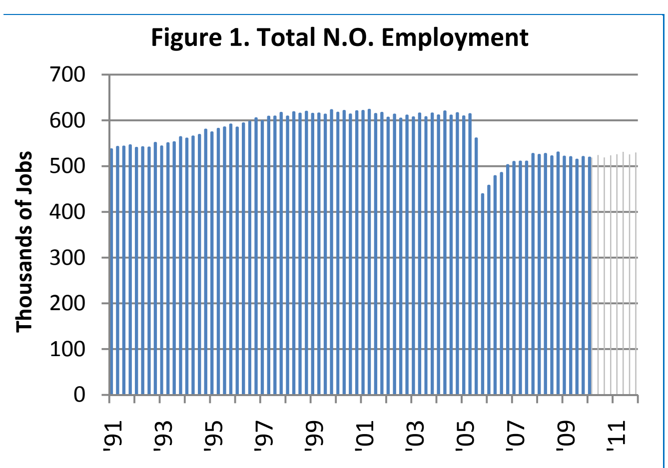
It has been five years since Hurricane Katrina shattered the New Orleans area. Despite pessimistic expectations and, even though the effects can still be seen, the New Orleans metropolitan area has achieved significant recovery in the five years since the storm. This report reveals a snapshot of the New Orleans economy as measured by April 2010 figures and compares it to information from the period just before Katrina struck. The report uses data through April to exclude the sizeable impact of the BP Horizon oil spill, because its purpose is to analyze the net recovery from Hurricane Katrina. Later issues of this report will address the BP oil spill, the layoffs at Michoud as the space shuttle program phases out, and the closure of the Avondale shipbuilding facility by Northrop Grumman.

During the five-year period, the most serious national recession since the Great Depression occurred. In 2009, the national recession had an impact on New Orleans, as a total of 5,800 jobs were lost. Still, this loss was small compared to most other areas of the nation. One explanation of this fact is that 70% of jobs, but just over 50% of the population, returned just after Katrina. As the economy grew, the people returned to available jobs for the most part. In other areas of the country, large labor forces supported manufacturing businesses which had become less labor intensive. Large surpluses of workers developed around the country. Historically, New Orleans also had a small manufacturing sector, which was one of the sectors hardest hit by the recession.

As of April 2010, the New Orleans economy gained 6,400 jobs compared to 2009, reaching a total of 519,600 jobs. Over the five years, a total of 93,800 jobs have been recovered and retained in the New Orleans area since the lowest measured employment in the autumn of 2005. However, about 85,000 jobs need to be recovered before pre-Katrina levels would be reached. Local job growth will be somewhat stifled as the jobless national recession continues (Figure 1).

Local population fell from 1.3 million people just before Katrina, to a low of about 670,000. Currently, the population stands at approximately 1.2 million (Figure 2). The overall recovery of the area's population is about 91% of pre-Katrina levels while metro employment is at about 86%. The percentage of jobs remained above that of population for some time, primarily due to a shortage of undamaged housing. This extremely tight labor market caused a substantial increase in area wages. As the national recession flattened New Orleans job growth, the return of the population now exceeds that of area jobs. Unemployment rates have started to climb, but wages have not shown signs of dropping yet. Wages still remain at about 27% above pre-Katrina levels. This figure is well above the 12% rise in the national inflation rate during the same time.

Damage and recovery have not been evenly distributed either between sectors of the economy or by geographic place. On the following pages are details of the variance in recovery rates. Statistics for the metropolitan area, unless otherwise noted, contain information for the 7-parish area defined as the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner Metropolitan Statistical Area. This area includes Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany parishes.



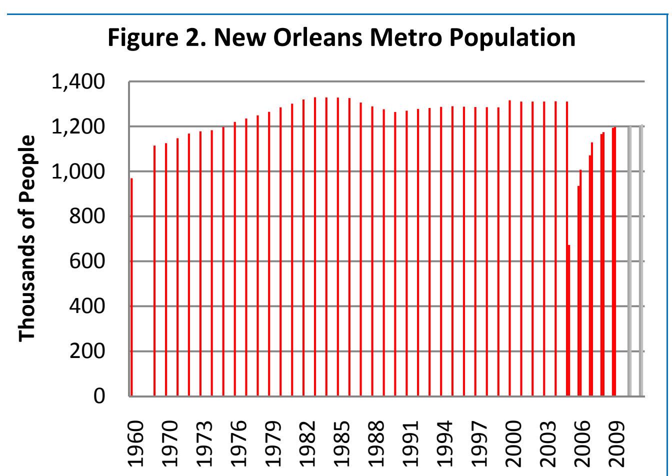
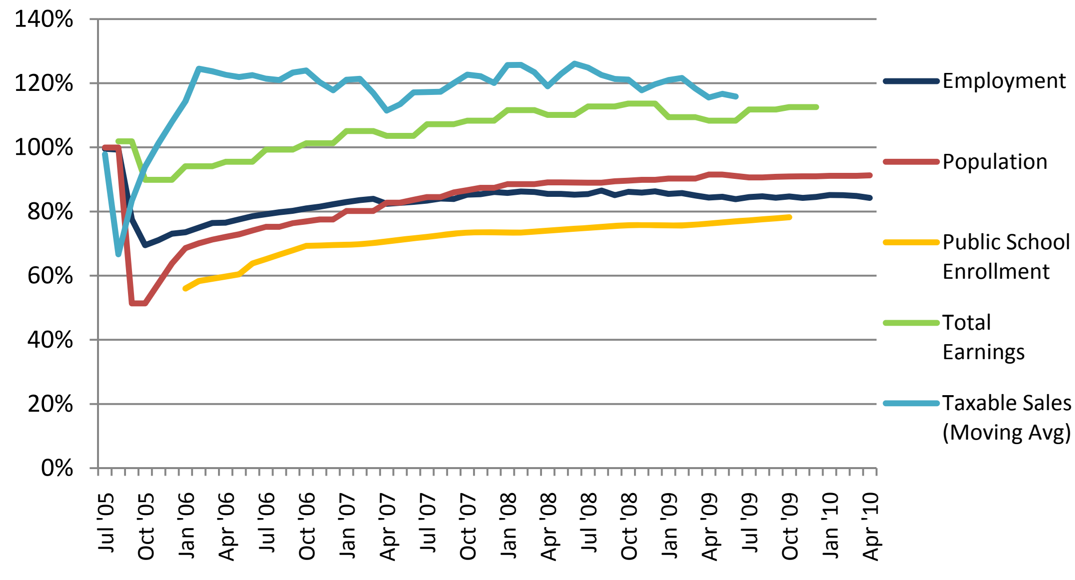


Table 1. New Orleans Metropolitan Employment

	(Thousands of Jobs)							% of Pre-Katrina 2005 at:					
Sector	2005 PreK	Worst In Fall 2005	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010	Worst in 2005	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010
Total Nonfarm Employment	604.5	425.8	480.8	506.5	519.0	513.2	519.6	70	80	84	86	85	86
Natural Resources	8.4	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.6	8.1	7.9	96	100	100	102	96	94
Construction	29.8	21.8	31.4	32.0	32.9	31.8	29.9	73	105	107	110	107	100
Heavy & Civil Eng.	7.3	6.0	7.5	7.9	8.6	7.9	8.0	82	103	108	118	108	110
Specialty Trades	16.5	10.7	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.1	15.9	65	105	106	107	104	96
Manufacturing	38.9	30.6	35.0	36.3	36.6	34.9	33.6	79	90	93	94	90	86
Durable Goods	21.1	15.6	19.1	19.5	19.8	18.3	17.8	74	91	92	94	87	84
Transportation Equip.	11.9	8.2	10.3	10.8	10.6	9.7	9.2	69	87	91	89	82	77
Nondurable Goods	17.8	14.5	15.9	16.8	16.8	16.6	15.8	81	89	94	94	93	89
Chemical Manufacturing	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.4	94	92	98	96	94	90
Wholesale Trade	26.2	21.8	23.0	24.6	23.9	22.8	22.2	83	88	94	91	87	85
Durable Goods Merchants	12.4	10.1	11.3	12.1	12.0	11.2	10.9	81	91	98	97	90	88
Nondurable Goods Merchants	9.6	7.7	8.0	8.2	7.9	7.8	7.6	80	83	85	82	81	79
Retail Trade	67.2	41	56.7	59.4	59.8	57.7	58.4	61	84	88	89	86	87
Grocery Stores	10.3	3.9	7.4	7.8	8.6	8.8	8.4	38	72	76	83	85	82
Drug Stores	5.0	3.6	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	72	88	92	94	94	94
General Merchandise Stores	14.3	8.9	11.0	11.6	11.9	12.2	11.4	62	77	81	83	85	80
Transport, Warehousing, & Util.	27.7	21.2	24.2	23.7	24.5	23.6	23.7	77	87	86	88	85	86
Transport/Warehouse	26.3	19.5	21.8	21.4	22.5	21.8	22.3	74	83	81	86	83	85
Information	10.1	7.3	6.7	8.7	7.2	6.4	6.2	72	66	86	71	63	61
Financial Activities	32.9	25.9	26.4	27.6	26.6	25.4	24.8	79	80	84	81	77	75
Depository Credit (banking)	7.7	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.0	83	82	84	82	82	78
Professional and Business Svcs	74.1	54	65.6	66.8	67.9	65.2	65.4	73	89	90	92	88	88
Professional, Scientific, Techl	28.1	21.6	27.0	27.4	28.3	27.4	28.4	77	96	98	101	98	101
Legal	9.5	6.5	8.0	8.7	8.9	8.7	8.1	68	84	92	94	92	85
Other Prof (Arch, Adv, Eng)	18.6	14.8	19.0	18.7	19.4	18.7	20.3	80	102	101	104	101	109
Management of Companies	8.5	6.2	7.3	7.3	8.0	8.1	8.2	73	86	86	94	95	96
Admin Support/Waste Mgmt	37.5	24.8	31.3	32.1	31.6	29.7	28.8	66	83	86	84	79	77
Educational Services (private)*	17.4	11.2	12.6	14.6	15.7	17.0	18.2	64	72	84	90	98	105
Colleges	9.7	7.0	8.0	8.9	9.5	9.7	10.6	72	82	92	98	100	109
Primary/Secondary ed.	7.7	3.7	4.6	5.7	6.2	7.3	7.5	48	60	74	81	95	97
Health Care and Social Assist	62	38.2	42.8	47.0	50.3	51.0	54.5	62	69	76	81	82	88
Ambulatory Health Care	22.1	14.1	16.9	18.5	19.3	19.5	20.3	64	76	84	87	88	92
Hospitals (private)	20.8	13.6	13.8	14.4	16.0	15.9	17.9	65	66	69	77	76	86
Leisure and Hospitality	85.8	42.2	60.2	65.9	68.5	68.6	69.2	49	70	77	80	80	81
Arts, Entertainment, and Rec	14.4	6.6	10.5	11.5	12.4	12.0	10.8	46	73	80	86	83	75
Gambling Industries	5.7	3.1	4.0	4.4	3.5	2.1	2.0	54	70	77	61	37	35
Accommodation	15.9	8.6	9.1	10.5	11.3	11.8	13.0	54	57	66	71	74	82
Food Svcs and Drinking Places	55.5	24.4	40.6	43.9	44.8	44.8	45.4	44	73	79	81	81	82
Other Services	22.6	13.3	15.8	20.1	19.8	19.8	19.8	59	70	89	88	88	88
Government	101.4	79.6	72.0	71.4	78.1	82.3	83.0	79	71	70	77	81	82
Federal Government	15.6	14.2	12.3	12.0	12.4	12.8	13.2	91	79	77	79	82	85
State Government	26.1	20.7	15.9	17.4	20.3	21.9	20.6	79	61	67	78	84	79
Local Government	59.7	44.5	43.8	42.0	45.4	47.6	49.2	75	73	70	76	80	82
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	17.7	4.5	3.7	4.5	7.4	6.0	334	85	70	85	140	113
Unemp Claims per week –Initial	835	6,757	290	351	859	1,128	1,061	809	35	42	103	135	127
Unemp Claims per week –Contin.	8,527	33,017	3,059	2,760	5,954	13,694	13,565	387	36	32	70	161	159

Source: Louisiana Department of Labor
All figures in this table are averages of July of the specified year except for Worst in Fall 2005 which gives the low point economically amongst monthly averages between Sept and Dec 2005, and most current data, which gives the averages of April, 2010
** Seasonally adjusted*

Figure 3. New Orleans Metro Economy-Percent Recovered



In Figure 3, above, it can be seen how population and employment rates generally moved together, until the recession caused job growth to slow and eventually decline. Demographic shifts can also be seen. These changes are indicated by public school enrollment. Enrollment remains below its pre-Katrina level, lagging total population.

EMPLOYMENT OVERVIEW

Figure 4, opposite, shows jobs created and retained in the New Orleans economy over the five years. The figure shows how changes in New Orleans employment have not been even across the economy. Listed below are some extreme examples.

New Jobs in 2010

Industries gaining employment include accommodation 10.1% (1,200 jobs); private educational services, including colleges and primary/secondary education, 7.1% (1,200 jobs); healthcare 6.9% (3,500 jobs); and local government 3.4% (1,600 jobs).

Job Losses in 2010

Industries losing a substantial number of jobs include arts and entertainment -10.0% (1,200 jobs); legal services -6.9% (600 jobs); general merchandise stores -6.6% (800 jobs); construction -5.9% (1,900 jobs); and state government -5.9% (1,300 jobs).

Industries Not Recovered After 5 Years

Industries struggling to reach pre-Katrina employment levels include gambling industries at 35.1% of pre-K levels (-3,700 jobs); information at 61.4% (-3,900 jobs); arts and entertainment at 75.0% (-3,600 jobs); financial services at 75.4% (-8,100 jobs); administrative waste management at 76.8% (-8,700 jobs); and manufacturing of transportation equipment at 77.3% (-2,700 jobs).

Industries Completely Recovered

Among the industries that have reached and exceed old levels are educational services at 105% of pre-K levels (18,200 jobs); professional, scientific and technical services at 101% (28,400 jobs); and construction at a 100% (29,900 jobs).

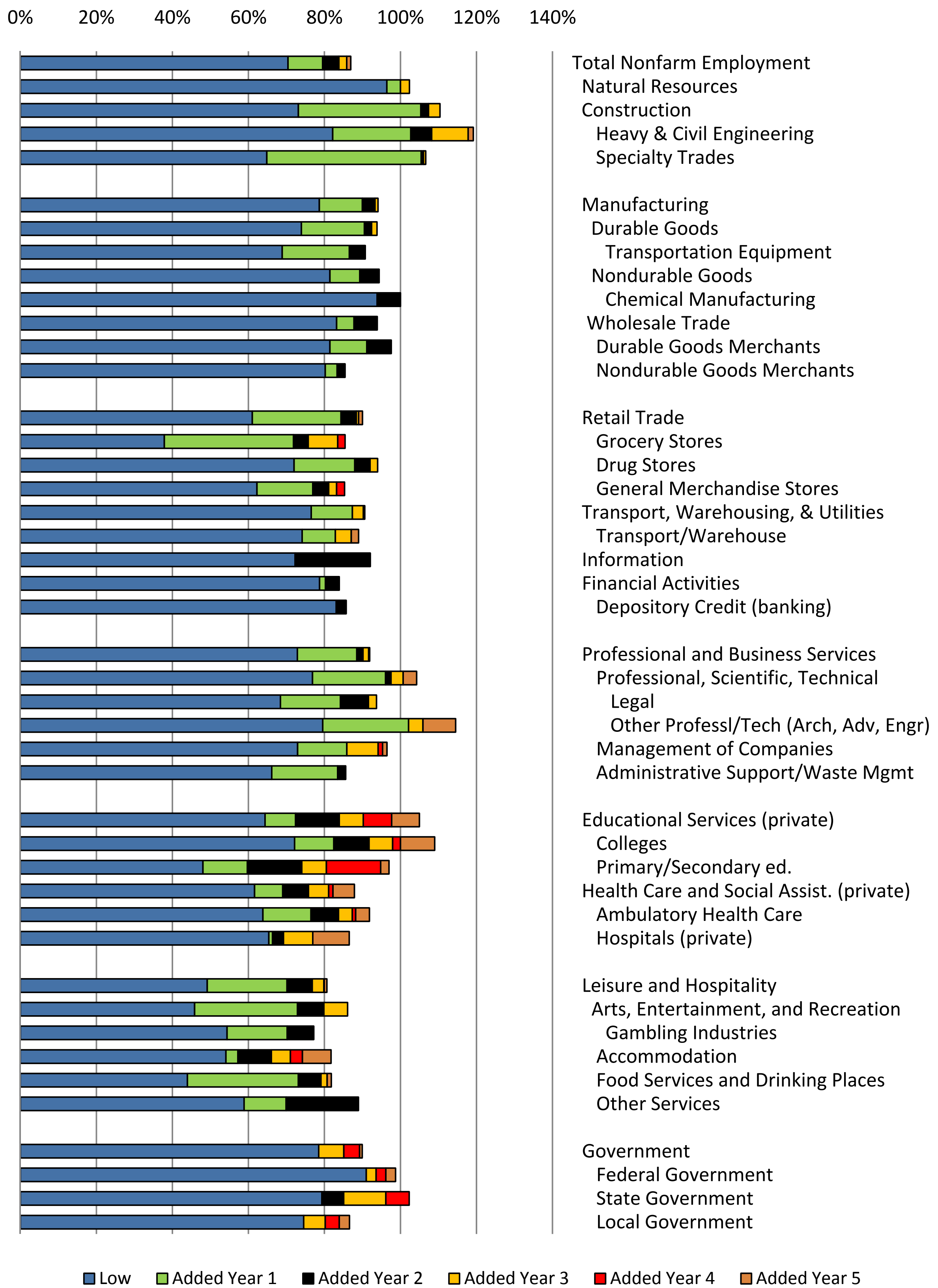
OTHER INDICATORS RECOVERY

Local economic indicators, other than jobs, that have reached and exceeded pre-Katrina levels, include construction contracts awarded, non-building at 256%, and non-residential at 204%; number of new restaurants open at 134%; port exports (tonnage) at 128%; and total earnings per month at 119%.

Some local indicators still struggling include housing starts at 41% of pre-Katrina values; air freight cargo at 65%; motor vehicle sales at 77%; and port imports (tonnage) also at 77%.

The most important sectors are examined in further detail in following sections.

Figure 4. New Orleans Jobs by Industry - % pre-Katrina



Educational services are seasonally adjusted

PRIVATE HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Health care employment had a sizeable recovery since last year and has reached 88% of pre-Katrina values. Private hospital employment, which has been one of the most damaged sectors, reached 86% pre-Katrina levels. Similarly, private education recovered substantially during the last three years and has reached normal levels. Private colleges have been successfully recruiting enrollment from outside the region reaching 109% of pre-Katrina levels.

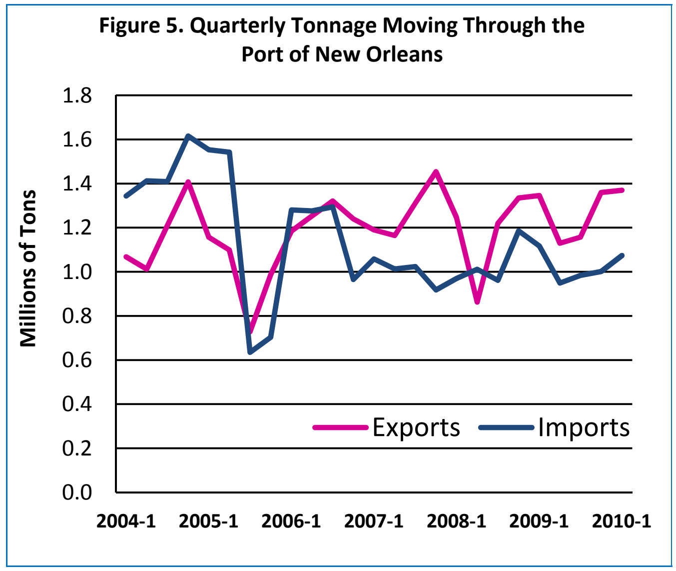
CAPITAL INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES

Employment in capital intensive industries, which rebounded quickly after the storm, has dropped during the last two years, most likely because of national pressures. The drop of the oil price, and the jobless economy caused some erosion in the local oil and gas industry. Natural resources jobs are only at 94% of pre-Katrina levels, while they reached nearly 102% during 2008. Similarly, manufacturing industries have been affected, dropping from 94% of old values in 2008 to 86% in 2010. A total of 3,000 jobs have been lost over the last three years.

Figure 5, shows that with a cheap dollar, the port is experiencing growth in exports this year to reach 128% of pre-Katrina tonnage. However, imports, affected heavily by the U.S. recession, remain at only at 77% of pre-Katrina tonnage.

GOVERNMENT

Since Katrina, a total of 3,400 jobs were added in government at all levels. However, these gains still leave government jobs at 82% of pre-Katrina levels. State and local government jobs have recovered 79% and 82%, respectively. Figure 4 shows that very few government jobs were added in the first two years after Katrina. It is only after year three that number of jobs started to grow. In fact, their recovery still lags the population they serve. These jobs include public education, health care and social services.



Trade data current through February 2010

TOURISM AND AIRPORT

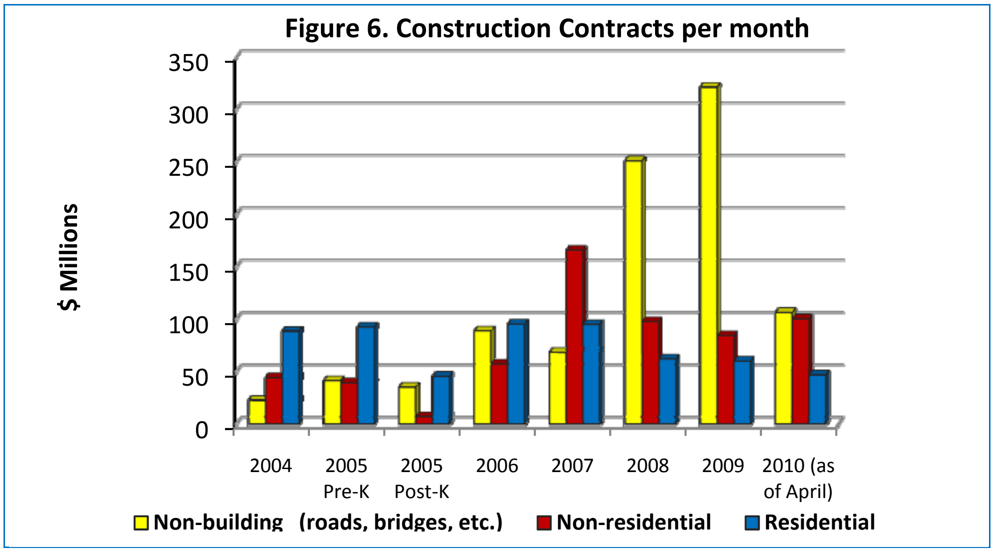
Tourism has been one of the slowest sectors of the economy to recover. Though it has experienced an upward trend over the years, some of the tourism indicators are still damaged five years after the hurricane.

Table 2 below, shows how airport capacity, measured in seats, has reached only 71% of old values. Capacity was higher during the summer of 2008, hitting 77%, but it fell victim to national trends. By flying fewer planes in regional markets, airlines were able to fly with fewer empty seats. Hotel room capacity is at 91% of pre-Katrina values, and hotel occupancy rate reached 96% of the old levels. The unexpected growth was mostly generated by a high visitation for the NFL playoff games and Super Bowl, followed by a large number of conventions and successful festivals in the spring. Employment in all leisure and hospitality sectors remains down relative to pre-Katrina.

Table 2. Tourism Indicators Annual Averages – New Orleans Metro Area

	Airport Capacity	Hotel Room Capacity	Hotel Occupancy Rate (%)	Total Passenger Deplanements	Accommodation Jobs
2004	20,676	38,117	66.64	4,867,424	16,217
2005 Pre-K	20,676	38,525	72.96	3,436,640	15,513
2005 Post-K	4,757	22,599	64.81	440,369	9,675
2006	11,141	29,872	65.04	3,111,819	8,567
2007	13,978	32,967	63.48	3,765,057	10,208
2008	15,873	33,639	66.29	3,970,230	11,042
2009	14,449	34,364	61.59	3,875,750	11,517
2010 (as Apr 1st)	14,638	34,948	70.27[e]	1,335,886	12,800

Occupancy rates and room rates supplied by Colliers PKF Consulting USA
e-Estimate

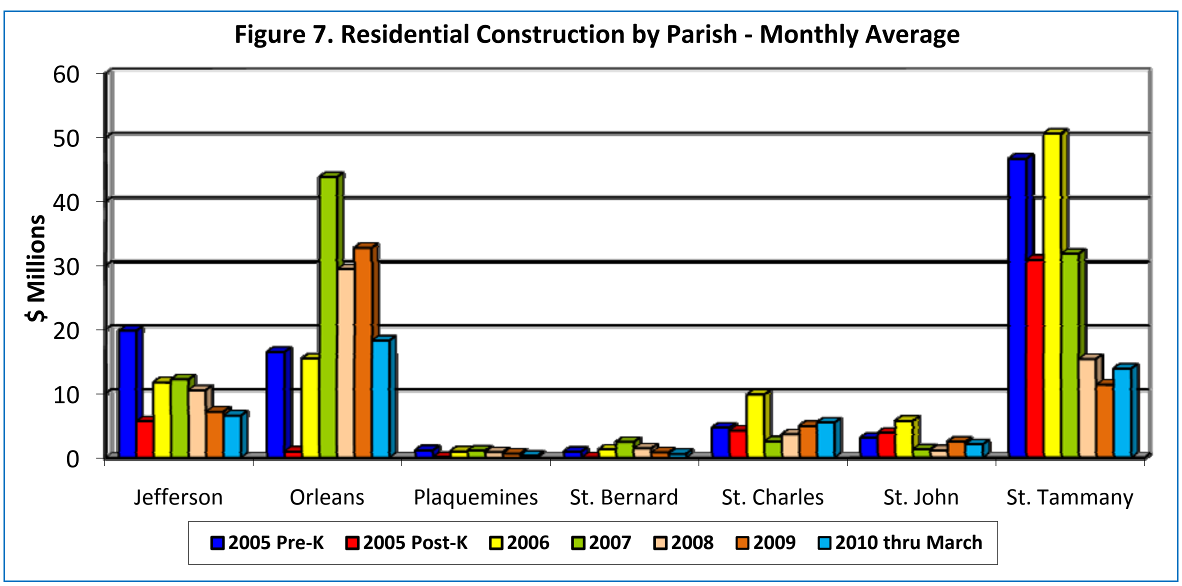


Proprietary data supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.

CONSTRUCTION
Construction employment has lost about 2,000 jobs compared to pre-Katrina levels in the last two years. As of April 2010, jobs are slightly above 100% of old values.

Figure 6, above, shows the value of the different construction activities for the metropolitan area. Construction is fundamental to recovery efforts and shows up several times in both the worst and best lists earlier. In this report, dollar value of contracts in both non-building and commercial building segments are still more than twice their pre-Katrina levels (256% and 254%, respectively). Most of the continuing non-building construction for roads, bridges, and flood control projects has being financed using FEMA and federal stimulus dollars. On the other hand, residential construction has slowed and now shows up as one of the worst performing sectors at about 51% of pre-Katrina levels. An important caution is that cash construction dollars, most common in residential repairs, are unmeasured and are not included in these figures.

Figure 7, below, shows the changes in residential construction for all parishes. Residential construction in outlying parishes spiked in 2006 and has slowed down since then. In particular, construction in St. Tammany, which traditionally dominated the local new home construction market, is down to about 30% of pre-Katrina values. Outlying suburban parishes such as St. Charles show a slightly increase over the last three years. However, if not for residential construction taking place in damaged parishes, such as Orleans, residential construction levels would be abysmal indeed. .

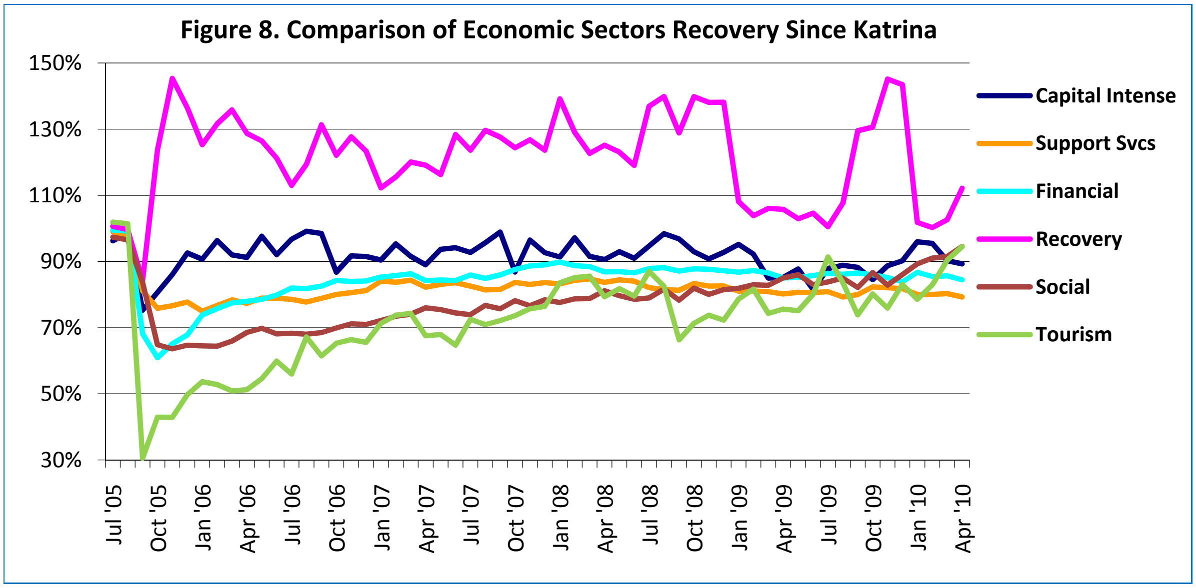


Proprietary data supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.

Table 3. Other Economic Indicators – Monthly averages – New Orleans Metro Area

								Percent of Pre-Katrina 2005 at:					
	2005 PreK	Worst in 2005	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010	Worst In 2005	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010
Crude Oil Price ($ per barrel)	59.0	58.3	74.4	74.1	133.4	64.2	84.3	99	126	126	226	109	143
Natural Gas Price ($ per thou cf)	7.5	8.9	5.9	6.2	10.6	3.4	3.9	118	79	83	142	46	52
Louisiana Rig Count	196.0	162.0	188.3	182.3	179.5	133.4	220.0	83	96	93	92	68	112
Louisiana Oil Production (Thou Bbls/Day)	1,429	290	1,345	1,279	1,323	1,403	1,450.0	20	94	90	93	98	101
Louisiana Natural Gas Production(bill cub ft)	114.6	85.5	117.1	113.3	118.1	134.7	169.3	75	102	99	103	118	148
Foreign Trade (Thou short tons)*[6]	2,460	463	2,515	2,211	2,038	2,246	2,443	19	102	90	83	91	99
Imports (Thou short tons)*	1,388	92	1,274	1,036	972	1,043	1,073	7	92	75	70	75	77
Exports (Thou short tons)*	1,072	372	1,241	1,175	1,067	1,203	1,369	35	116	110	100	112	128
Air Freight Cargo (Tons)*	7,424	1,862	4,317	3,858	4,101	4,798	4,842	25	58	52	55	65	65
Hotel/Motel Sales ($Mill) *[1]	71.0	17.3	54.8	59.9	69.8	61.4	53.8	24	77	84	98	87	76
Convention Roomnights (Thou) *	128.2	15.7	40.5	88.7	108.0	108.9	104.8	12	32	69	84	85	82
Passenger Deplanements(Thou)*	429.6	19.0	247.1	316.1	356.6	331.8	334.0	4	58	74	83	77	78
Airport Capacity (Thou of Seats)	20.7	2.2	11.8	14.1	16.5	14.2	14.7	11	57	68	80	69	71
Hotel Room Capacity (Thou of Rooms)*	38.7	11.9	29.7	33.0	33.6	34.6	34.9*	31	77	85	87	89	90
Hotel Room Rate ($)*[2]	117.9	97.1	122.7	124.4	128.1	122.3	132.7 [e]	82	104	106	109	104	113
Hotel Occupancy Rate (%)*[2]	73.0	56.1	65.1	63.5	66.3	61.6	70.3 [e]	77	89	87	91	84	96
Total Gambling Revenues($Mill)*	53.6	0.0	58.6	58.6	59.1	52.5	49.8	0	109	109	110	98	93
Riverboat Casino Revenues ($Mill)*	24.5	0.0	33.5	24.3	24.2	21.9	20.3	0	137	99	99	88	83
Bally's*	4.7	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-
Boomtown*	10.2	0.0	19.9	14.5	14.4	12.8	11.9	0	195	142	141	126	117
Treasure Chest*	9.5	0.0	13.6	9.8	9.8	9.0	8.4	0	143	103	104	95	89
Harrah's Casino Revenues ($Mill)*	29.0	0.0	25.1	34.3	34.9	30.7	29.5	0	87	118	120	106	102
Casino Revenue Mississippi Gulf Coast ($mill)*	109.3	0.0	64.0	111.2	110.5	96.6	93.6	0	59	102	101	88	86
Construction Contracts Awarded ($Mill)*[3]	174.0	15.4	219.2	384.5	476.1	234.4	234.1	9	126	221	274	135	135
Residential per month ($Mill)*	92.8	11.0	90.3	85.7	71.6	62.5	47.1	12	97	92	77	67	51
Non-Residential per month ($Mill)*	39.5	-	61.9	222.4	101.7	91.4	80.4	0	157	563	257	231	204
Non-Building (Mill$)*	41.7	4.4	67.0	76.4	302.8	80.6	106.6	11	161	183	726	193	256
Housing Starts*	530.0	79.0	482.3	445.3	439.0	435.6	217.3	15	91	84	83	82	41
Population (Thou)[4]	1,310	673	987	1,109	1,168	1,190	1,196	51	75	85	89	91	91
Taxable Sales excluding Motor Vehicle Sales (Mill$)*	1,349	1,046	1,673	1,592	1,697	1,431	n/a	78	124	118	126	106	n/a
Motor Vehicle Sales (Mill$)	183	107	227	186	159	130	141	58	124	102	87	71	77
Total Earnings per month (Mill$)[5]	1,706	1,615	1,603	1,739	1,848	1,818	2,022	95	94	102	108	107	119
Weekly Wage $ per week (8 parish area)[5]	660	857	787	798	833	835	932	130	119	121	126	127	141
Per Capita Personal Annual Income (Thou$)*	31.0	19.0	42.4	44.3	44.1	40.0 [e]	39.9 [e]	61	137	143	142	129	129
Restaurants open - Tom Fitzmorris	805	22	669	832	947	1,016	1,081	3	83	103	118	126	134

** Volatile series. Year to date figures have been analyzed instead of most recent month*
1 – Hotel/motel sales include Orleans and Jefferson Parishes only. Data current through March 2010
2 – Occupancy rates and room rates supplied by Colliers PKF Consulting USA.
3 – Construction figures are proprietary data supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.
4 – Population figures are a combination of data produced by US Department of Census and UNO estimates using data produced by the Greater New Orleans Community Data Center, GCR & Associates, and Dr. Ray Brady of System Solutions Consulting.
5 – Earnings and wages current only through December 2009.
6 – Foreign trade data current only through February 2010
e– Estimate



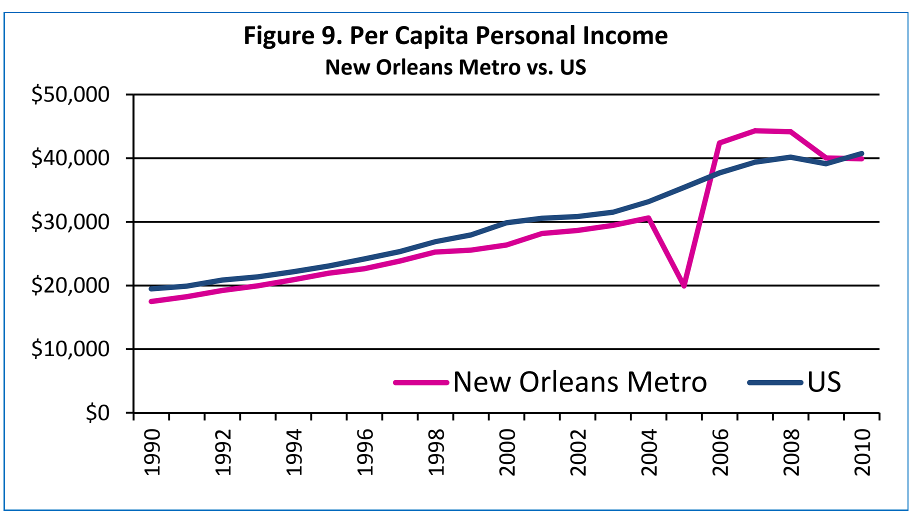
The graph in Figure 8, above, combines economic indicators into groups in an index format. It is interesting to see the contrast in the recovery curves in the different groups. Recovery from the storm put several areas into high gear.

Capital-intensive industries did not abandon their investments in chemical plants, port facilities and shipyards. They worked very quickly to get employees back and by the early winter of 2005-2006 were functioning at somewhere between 90% and 100% of pre-Katrina levels. These industries have maintained those levels, except for two years ago, when recessionary pressures caused a sag in the trend. Business support services have been flat for some time between 75% and 80% of pre-Katrina values. Similarly, financial businesses (indicators like banking jobs and retail taxable sales) have stayed around 80%-85% of old levels.

Recovery indicators, such as construction and auto sales (thousands of flooded vehicles needed to be replaced), have been dropping from extreme heights and are just above 100% of pre-Katrina values. Social services - education and health care - were slow to respond, lagging population return at first. They have shown recovery during the current year and are almost at pre-Katrina levels.

Tourism, the most vulnerable to outside perception and discretionary decisions, was the most damaged industry during the first two years. Though tourism has showed improvement to catch up in recovery terms with the index values for the other sectors, the national recession has kept it from attaining its full potential.

In Figure 9, below, it can be seen that, after Hurricane Katrina, the New Orleans area per capita personal income rose above that of the nation. More recently, New Orleans per capita personal income has fallen to the national level but not below it.



2009 and 2010 values are preliminary estimates

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

Some indicators of the United States economy are shown below in Table 4. They are analyzed in a context of Katrina's economic effects on the New Orleans economy.

The national economy should expect a jobless recovery. The prospect for growth in the number of jobs is grim over the next year and is uncertain after that. Table 4, below, shows how national employment has been decreasing steadily over the last two years. Job counts are down 5% compared to five years ago and have remained virtually constant since last July. The nation's unemployment rate, as April 2010, was 9.9% and is nearly double the rates of five years ago. New Orleans unemployment rate of 6.0% compares favorably to the national rate, although initial unemployment claims have reached nearly 127% of pre-Katrina levels.

Other indicators affected by the national recession which are now below pre-Katrina levels, include housing starts and automobile sales at 29% and 64%, respectively.

Table 4. Change in National Indicators over 5 years

							Percentage Change				
	2005 PreK	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010	1st Anniv 2006	2nd Anniv 2007	3rd Anniv 2008	4th Anniv 2009	Most Current 2010
GDP – Nominal ($Bill)– Annual Rate*	12,517	13,348	13,997	14,498	14,151	14,592	107	112	116	113	117
GDP – Real (2005$Bill)– Annual Rate*	12,588	12,963	13,204	13,415	12,902	13,239	103	105	107	102	105
Personal Income ($Bill)– Annual Rate	10,387	11,204	11,823	12,293	12,049	12,187	108	114	118	116	117
Total Non-farm Employment (Mill Jobs)	133.7	135.9	137.4	136.8	130.0	130.1	102	103	102	97	97
Housing Starts (Mill) – Annual Rate*	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.6	95	72	49	25	29
Unit Sales of Automobiles (Mill) – Annual Rate*	17.9	17.2	16.5	14.7	10.0	11.4	96	92	82	56	64
Unemployment Rate (%)*	5.0	4.7	4.7	5.8	9.4	9.9	94	94	116	188	198
CPI-U (1982-84=100)*	194.7	202.7	207.3	218.6	214.8	217.6	104	106	112	110	112
Industrial Production Index (2002=100)*	108.1	111.1	112.6	111.4	96.1	93.3	103	104	103	89	86
Prime Interest Rate (%)	6.3	8.3	8.3	5.0	3.3	3.3	131	131	79	52	52
Mortgage Interest Rate (%)	5.7	6.8	6.7	6.4	5.2	5.1	119	118	113	92	89
Trade Weighted Value of $ (2000=100)	85.6	81.9	77.5	70.9	76.4	75.3	96	91	83	89	88
Crude Oil Price ($) per barrel	59	74.4	74.1	133.4	64.2	84.3	126	126	226	109	143
Natural Gas Price ($) per 1000 cub ft	7.5	5.9	6.2	10.6	3.4	3.9	79	83	142	46	52
Value of Imports ($Bill)– Annual Rate	1,669	1,884	1,951	2,227	1,461	1,851	113	117	133	88	111
Value of Exports ($Bill)– Annual Rate	909	1,017	1,109	1,326	978	1,194	112	122	146	108	131
Merchandise Trade Balance ($Bill) – Annual Rate	-761	-868	-842	-900	-483	-657	114	111	118	63	86
Rig Count	1,398	1,681	1,777	1,932	931	1,476	120	127	138	67	106
Initial Unemployment claims per week (Thou)	322.8	316.2	308.5	398.8	562.8	480.0	98	96	124	174	149

** Seasonally adjusted. Data shows either July compared to July, or 2nd quarter compared to 2nd quarter of the specified year.*

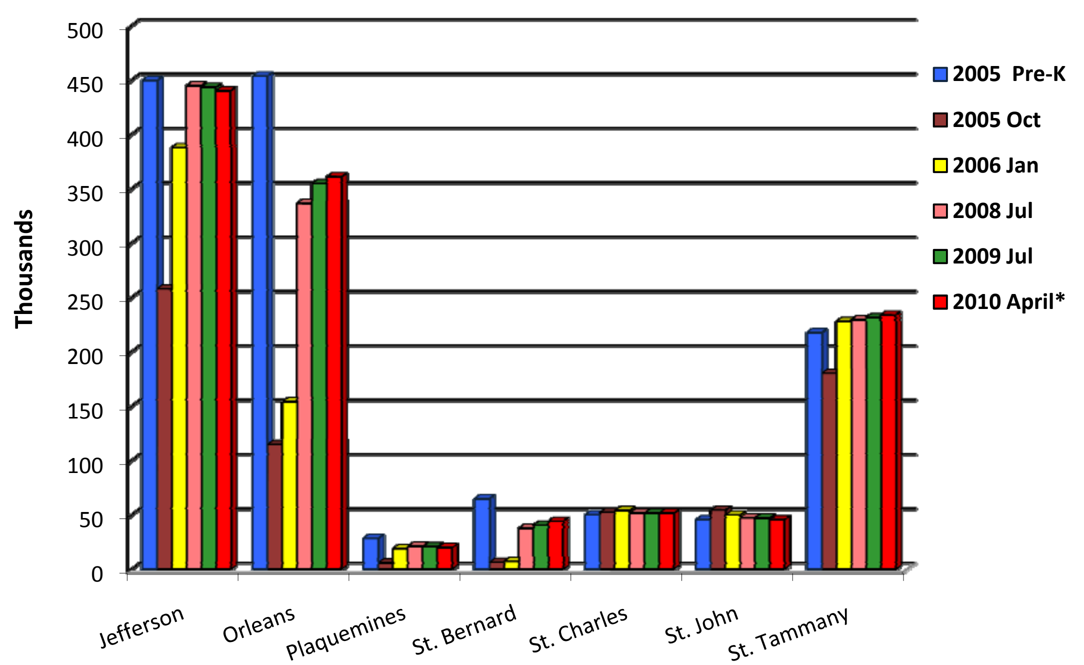
PARISH INDICATORS

Data for individual parishes start on the next page. A table for each parish shows trends in a few economic indicators. The still-recovering parishes of Orleans and St. Bernard show different patterns compared to parishes that were less damaged by the storm. Labor data available for individual parishes take longer to be released than the metropolitan area jobs statistics. Jobs, wages and earnings data in the parish section are as of December 2009 and encompass employees subject to unemployment insurance taxation and is recorded by place of work. Other data at the bottom half of the tables are generally from July or June 2010 of the specified year unless otherwise noted.

Population by parish can be found in Figure 10. St. Bernard is the parish with the lowest population recovery at 68% of pre-Katrina levels. Similarly, Plaquemines and Orleans are also below old levels at 70% and 80%, respectively.

Wages from December 2009 are showed in Table 5. After the storm, wages per week increased an average of 126% of pre-Katrina levels.

Figure 10. Parish Population



**Preliminary estimates*

Table 5. New Orleans Metro Area: Quarterly Average Weekly Wage ($ per week)

								Percent Pre Katrina				
	2004 (avg.)	2005 PreK	Dec 05	Dec 06	Dec 07	Dec 08	Most Current Dec 09	Dec 05	Dec 06	Dec 07	Dec 08	Most Current Dec 09
All segments ($ per week)	662	681	857	858	881	921	932	126	126	129	135	137
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	483	418	601	664	666	644	660	144	159	159	154	158
Mining	1,439	1,684	1,614	1,860	1,871	1,930	1,998	96	110	111	115	119
Utilities	1,019	1,204	1,181	1,115	1,159	1,156	1,419	98	93	96	96	118
Construction	704	683	913	966	994	1,060	1,097	134	141	146	155	161
Manufacturing	961	1,009	1,064	1,123	1,182	1,270	1,306	105	111	117	126	129
Wholesale Trade	929	958	1,114	1,215	1,224	1,262	1,242	116	127	128	132	130
Retail Trade	430	418	548	535	525	509	521	131	128	126	122	125
Transportation and Warehousing	846	830	976	1,034	1,097	1,114	1,138	118	125	132	134	137
Information	743	751	959	941	970	984	1,110	128	125	129	131	148
Finance and Insurance	903	985	1,286	1,211	1,230	1,226	1,237	131	123	125	124	126
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	605	596	816	831	816	843	842	137	139	137	141	141
Professional and Technical Services	1,069	941	1,274	1,441	1,502	1,655	1,585	135	153	160	176	168
Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises	1,028	1,232	1,201	1,105	1,224	1,219	1,214	98	90	99	99	99
Administrative and Waste Services	468	473	737	640	655	687	664	156	135	138	145	140
Educational Services	662	677	674	702	765	803	790	100	104	113	119	117
Health Care and Social Assistance	713	678	812	864	855	889	926	120	127	126	131	137
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	610	598	969	745	905	937	1,119	162	125	151	157	187
Accommodation and Food Services	285	290	349	358	373	380	395	120	123	129	131	136
Other Services, except Public Admin	493	464	629	618	622	659	651	136	133	134	142	140
Public Administration	772	784	892	931	994	1,039	1,058	114	119	127	133	135

In employment at the parish level, almost all industries in St. John and St. Tammany parishes have reached and now exceed pre-Katrina levels. Among the industries still recovering are mining and real estate. In Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Charles parishes, nearly a third of the industries have reached pre-Katrina levels. Orleans and St. Bernard parishes have a few industries reaching pre-Katrina levels. Some of them include: professional and technical services (Orleans) and mining and construction (St. Bernard).

Some industries have had big losses persisting five years after Katrina. For example, agriculture and fishing employment in Jefferson and Orleans parishes have pre-Katrina levels at only 36% and 46% respectively. In St. Bernard some of the most affected industries include: healthcare (21%), finance and insurance (28%) and retail (38%).

New residential construction in Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. John and St. Tammany show a slow growth reaching less than 35% of pre-Katrina levels. A significant increase in non-residential construction is seen in Orleans, Plaquemines and St. John parishes.

As for wages, the highest paid workers are those who work in Orleans, Plaquemines and St. Charles parishes, where the average weekly wage exceeds $1,000 per week. St. Bernard, with wages 161% higher than pre-Katrina levels, is the parish with the highest weekly wage growth.

Table 6: Quarterly Jefferson Parish Economic Indicators

	Jefferson									
							Percent of Pre-Katrina			
	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	'07	'08	'09	Most Current
Total Employment*	215,945	168,205	198,110	200,580	195,067	193,761	92	93	90	90
Agriculture/Fishing	78	63	45	35	27	28	57	45	34	36
Mining	1,985	1,961	2,068	2,145	2,037	1,980	104	108	103	100
Utilities	1,392	1,495	1,472	1,444	1,469	1,420	106	104	106	102
Construction	13,987	12,050	14,537	15,523	14,931	14,708	104	111	107	105
Manufacturing	17,317	13,901	15,790	15,289	14,440	13,966	91	88	83	81
Wholesale Trade	13,079	11,280	12,061	11,969	11,464	11,240	92	92	88	86
Retail Trade	30,959	22,928	30,329	29,856	28,431	28,991	98	96	92	94
Transport & Warehousing	8,935	7,251	8,025	8,397	8,039	8,077	90	94	90	90
Information	3,475	2,842	2,967	2,749	2,906	2,375	85	79	84	68
Finance and Insurance	9,405	8,842	8,349	8,041	8,032	8,066	89	85	85	86
Real Estate and Rental	4,932	3,669	4,369	4,226	3,684	3,574	89	86	75	72
Professional & Tech Services	10,173	8,414	9,792	10,367	10,053	10,004	96	102	99	98
Mgmt. of Enterprises	2,605	2,271	2,726	2,811	2,921	2,848	105	108	112	109
Admin. & Waste Services	16,643	11,678	14,692	15,217	12,809	13,143	88	91	77	79
Educational Services	10,754	10,032	8,316	8,799	8,914	9,428	77	82	83	88
Health Care & Soc.Assist.	28,787	21,777	26,749	27,711	29,473	29,970	93	96	102	104
Arts/Entertainment	5,178	3,602	4,890	4,926	5,113	4,484	94	95	99	87
Accommodation and Food	23,268	13,607	19,144	19,019	18,296	17,379	82	82	79	75
Other Services	6,414	4,387	5,643	5,739	5,505	5,527	88	89	86	86
Public Administration	6,582	6,155	6,146	6,317	6,521	6,555	93	96	99	100
Total Earnings ($Mill) per qtr*	1,757	1,810	1,943	2,017	1,981	2,258	111	115	113	129
Avg. Weekly Wage*	624	812	754	772	781	896	121	124	125	143
Population(Thou)**	450.9	306.3	437.9	443.9	444.8	445.6	97	98	99	99
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	16.0	3.5	3.8	6.2	5.9	74	80	131	125
Unemploy Claims per week (Initial)	282	746	90	286	437	375	32	101	155	133
Unemploy Claims per week (Continued)	2,689	7,042	743	1,795	4,972	5,843	28	67	185	217
Construction Contracts per month: ($Mill)***										
Residential	20.8	5.7	11.6	7.3	7.8	7.5	56	35	38	36
Residential in Progress	171.1	139.4	101.1	76.5	74.9	63.6	59	45	44	37
Non-Residential	6.6	4.2	14.3	16.5	9.9	17.9	215	249	149	269
Non-Residential in Progress	173.2	157.4	231.4	349.8	287.7	316.8	134	202	166	183
Taxable Sales ($Mill) per month	568	696	694	670	606	n/a	122	118	107	n/a
Motor Vehicle Sales ($Mill) per month	65	105	76	62	52	46	118	97	80	71

** Employment, earnings and wages current only through December 2009. The number of jobs and corresponding wages are for establishments subject to unemployment insurance taxation. Notable exclusions are employees of very small businesses (under 4 employees), self-employed persons, and salespersons on commission-only bases.*
*** Population current through first quarter 2010*
****Construction figures are supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.*

Table 7: Quarterly Orleans and Plaquemines Parish Economic Indicators

	Orleans										Plaquemines									
							Percent of Pre-Katrina										Percent of Pre-Katrina			
	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.
Total Employment*	243,325	153,672	166,263	172,215	168,011	169,368	68	71	69	70	15,471	13,568	14,634	14,648	14,487	14,286	95	95	94	92
Agriculture/Fishing	57	45	61	60	27	26	108	106	48	46	52	40	49	45	42	45	93	86	81	86
Mining	4,170	4,122	3,709	3,807	3,643	3,416	89	91	87	82	1,704	1,771	1,705	1,549	1,397	1,383	100	91	82	81
Utilities	1,880	1,870	1,062	1,149	1,200	1,049	56	61	64	56	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Construction	6,134	4,825	5,602	4,904	5,546	5,309	91	80	90	87	1,449	1,521	1,357	1,380	1,322	1,214	94	95	91	84
Manufacturing	8,719	6,316	7,839	7,689	6,046	5,558	90	88	69	64	2,021	1,690	2,183	2,368	2,341	2,193	108	117	116	109
Wholesale Trade	6,026	4,458	4,383	4,441	3,967	3,963	73	74	66	66	728	582	983	855	848	844	135	117	116	116
Retail Trade	19,080	7,898	11,050	12,656	12,250	12,289	58	66	64	64	680	336	531	643	659	656	78	95	97	96
Transport & Warehousing	13,515	9,621	8,786	8,529	7,871	7,817	65	63	58	58	1,941	1,969	1,862	1,929	1,841	1,923	96	99	95	99
Information	5,108	4,182	4,183	5,648	3,106	3,082	82	111	61	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance and Insurance	8,406	6,355	6,079	5,975	5,582	5,474	72	71	66	65	130	97	94	103	98	99	72	80	76	76
Real Estate and Rental	4,047	2,483	2,227	2,337	2,222	2,208	55	58	55	55	619	521	560	543	608	624	90	88	98	101
Professional & Tech Svcs.	14,460	12,267	13,131	13,552	13,762	14,105	91	94	95	98	344	306	522	433	437	485	152	126	127	141
Mgmt. of Enterprises	4,619	3,050	3,318	3,319	3,347	3,440	72	72	72	74	114	91	n/a	207	51	49	n/a	182	45	43
Admin. & Waste Services	16,298	8,933	10,817	9,842	9,446	9,302	66	60	58	57	615	648	674	546	795	693	110	89	129	113
Educational Services	28,320	18,692	18,155	19,003	19,960	21,100	64	67	70	75	1,639	1,287	941	930	975	1,145	57	57	59	70
Health Care & Soc. Assist.	32,359	20,307	17,208	19,884	21,047	20,746	53	61	65	64	639	424	676	531	477	421	106	83	75	66
Arts/Entertainment	8,801	5,571	6,470	6,559	4,245	5,009	74	75	48	57	42	8	46	82	51	51	110	195	121	122
Accommodation and Food	36,515	15,661	23,636	25,007	27,086	27,190	65	68	74	74	844	527	673	712	785	733	80	84	93	87
Other Services	7,264	3,667	4,975	5,103	4,923	5,256	68	70	68	72	328	242	209	187	161	140	64	57	49	43
Public Administration	17,039	13,085	12,902	12,038	12,241	12,368	76	71	72	73	1,457	1,371	1,307	1,429	1,473	1,475	90	98	101	101
Total Earnings ($Mill) per qtr*	2,192	1,838	1,896	2,071	2,008	2,217	87	95	92	101	158	168	180	187	191	203	114	118	121	129
Avg. Weekly Wage*	691	972	872	920	913	1,007	126	133	132	146	780	928	943	989	1,005	1,090	121	127	129	140
Population (Thou)**	455.1	126.8	282.8	338.3	356.9	366.6	62	74	78	81	28.6	10.9	21.4	21.2	20.9	21.0	75	74	73	74
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	7.8	4.9	5.7	9.8	7.4	82	96	166	126	5.2	12.7	3.8	3.9	6.2	5.5	72	74	119	106
Unemploy Claims per week (Initial)	339	384	100	278	397	308	29	82	117	91	15	70	5	9	15	13	34	58	102	83
Unemploy Claims per week (Continued)	3,235	3,438	695	1,594	4,077	4,307	21	49	126	133	126	630	42	58	179	199	33	46	142	158
Construction Contracts per month: ($Mill)***																				
Residential	10.6	0.9	34.7	31.0	9.0	19.3	328	292	85	182	1.1	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.2	65	68	62	15
Residential in Progress	181.8	97.3	189.3	425.5	320.1	200.1	104	234	176	110	9.4	8.3	12.8	9.8	6.2	3.9	136	98	66	41
Non-Residential	13.6	0.0	17.2	65.8	37.9	41.7	126	483	278	306	0.9	0.1	0.0	3.4	0.0	2.6	0	396	0	300
Non-Residential in Progress	376.2	281.1	488.4	599.9	879.9	744.1	130	159	234	198	6.1	4.9	7.1	53.5	81.6	70.2	116	877	1338	1151
Taxable Sales ($Mill) per month	452	143	380	460	406	409	84	102	90	91	43	48	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	140	n/a	n/a	n/a
Motor Vehicle Sales ($Mill) per month	39	46	35	30	25	26	91	77	65	66	5	10	6	6	4	5	111	106	75	86

** Employment, earnings and wages current only through December 2009. The number of jobs and corresponding wages are for establishments subject to unemployment insurance taxation. Notable exclusions are employees of very small businesses (under 4 employees), self-employed persons, and salespersons on commission-only bases.*

*** Population current through first quarter 2010*

****Construction figures are supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.*

Table 8: Quarterly St. Bernard and St. Charles Parish Economic Indicators

	St. Bernard						Percent of Pre-Katrina				St. Charles						Percent of Pre-Katrina			
	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.
Total Employment*	17,655	7,153	8,752	9,122	9,917	9,858	50	52	56	56	22,545	22,545	24,461	24,536	23,909	24,070	108	109	106	107
Agriculture/Fishing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16	9	n/a	n/a	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	128	n/a
Mining	67	63	72	65	66	68	108	98	99	101	66	n/a	85	92	90	71	129	139	136	107
Utilities	134	108	81	78	83	82	60	58	62	61	815	811	784	788	859	896	96	97	105	110
Construction	1,428	776	2,011	1,856	1,791	1,649	141	130	125	115	3,075	3,137	3,654	3,804	3,036	3,428	119	124	99	111
Manufacturing	1,768	1,218	1,328	1,369	1,416	1,380	75	77	80	78	4,617	4,470	4,548	4,771	4,573	4,453	99	103	99	96
Wholesale Trade	513	293	381	400	369	387	74	78	72	75	2,271	2,055	1,914	1,784	1,689	1,673	84	79	74	74
Retail Trade	2,929	635	899	1,060	1,072	1,100	31	36	37	38	1,453	1,390	1,689	1,654	1,705	1,733	116	114	117	119
Transport & Warehousing	758	529	553	646	639	596	73	85	84	79	1,305	1,227	1,781	1,947	1,811	1,778	136	149	139	136
Information	87	62	33	29	20	18	38	34	23	21	169	152	122	120	126	130	72	71	75	77
Finance and Insurance	373	185	90	105	106	105	24	28	29	28	282	283	306	262	248	247	109	93	88	88
Real Estate and Rental	239	104	35	51	38	-	15	22	16	-	344	308	264	246	199	233	77	72	58	68
Professional & Tech Services	308	117	161	179	158	158	52	58	51	51	599	552	812	699	967	916	136	117	161	153
Mgmt. of Enterprises	112	65	81	21	96	93	72	19	86	84	87	80	91	100	n/a	n/a	104	115	n/a	n/a
Admin. & Waste Services	296	217	371	398	432	382	125	134	146	129	1,705	2,583	2,638	2,280	2,272	2,188	155	134	133	128
Educational Services	n/a	361	467	512	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Care & Soc. Assist.	2,766	789	430	487	547	569	16	18	20	21	1,449	1,377	1,433	1,473	1,569	1,605	99	102	108	111
Arts/Entertainment	397	73	106	126	111	92	27	32	28	23	264	144	265	279	258	132	101	106	98	50
Accommodation and Food	1,859	277	705	755	859	829	38	41	46	45	981	842	1,019	1,041	829	835	104	106	85	85
Other Services	760	196	236	212	243	241	31	28	32	32	291	280	281	285	244	237	97	98	84	81
Public Administration	990	738	668	731	777	793	67	74	78	80	727	715	736	791	816	789	101	109	112	109
Total Earnings ($Mill) per qtr*	127	73	95	99	107	-	75	78	85	0	249	276	296	328	317	350	119	132	127	141
Avg. Weekly Wage*	556	934	848	832	841	897	153	150	151	161	840	948	938	1,023	1,012	1,118	112	122	120	133
Population (Thou)**	64.9	6.6	30.2	375	41.5	41.8	46	58	64	64	50.2	52.3	51.9	51.6	51.9	52.0	104	103	104	104
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.2	5.2	4.4	5.0	9.4	9.5	85	96	180	182	5.1	21.5	3.8	3.9	6.3	6.0	75	76	124	119
Unemploy Claims per week (Initial)	52	69	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	34	339	26	28	48	40	77	81	141	118
Unemploy Claims per week (Continued)	420	549	0	9	6	7	0	2	2	2	317	3,308	205	228	526	626	65	72	166	197
Construction Contracts per month: ($Mill)***																				
Residential	0.8	0.0	2.9	2.3	0.4	0.2	358	288	46	21	4.3	4.2	1.9	4.5	5.4	5.4	44	103	125	125
Residential in Progress	6.9	6.0	17.7	15.4	6.6	6.5	257	223	96	94	42.6	40.1	83.6	28.2	44.2	44.6	196	66	104	105
Non-Residential	3.0	0.5	0.7	11.0	16.0	10.0	22	363	527	329	0.8	0.2	0.8	3.1	0.6	0.4	109	400	83	52
Non-Residential in Progress	32.2	32.5	53.5	105.3	144.4	155.3	166	327	448	482	18.8	14.9	26.9	27.3	25.4	17.8	143	145	135	95
Taxable Sales ($Mill) per month[a]	n/a	32	44	48	39	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	78	118	114	123	106	n/a	146	158	135	n/a
Motor Vehicle Sales ($Mill) per month	7	17	5	4	3	3	72	54	43	36	9	10	11	9	8	7	124	103	87	79

** Employment, earnings and wages current only through December 2009. The number of jobs and corresponding wages are for establishments subject to unemployment insurance taxation. Notable exclusions are employees of very small businesses (under 4 employees), self-employed persons, and salespersons on commission-only bases.*
*** Population current through first quarter 2010*
****Construction figures are supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.*
a – St. Bernard taxable sales current through February 2010. St. Charles parish sales taxes include both sales and use taxes.

Table 9: Quarterly St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany Parish Economic Indicators

	St. John the Baptist										St. Tammany									
							Percent of Pre-Katrina										Percent of Pre-Katrina			
	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.	2005 Pre K	2005 Post K	2 yr Anniv	3 yr Anniv	4 yr Anniv	Most Current	‘07	‘08	‘09	Most Curr.
Total Employment*	12,996	13,174	14,865	15,338	15,165	15,353	114	118	117	118	69,265	61,234	75,494	74,811	75,148	75,287	109	108	108	109
Agriculture/Fishing	50	64	41	41	31	40	83	82	63	80	154	133	138	131	131	125	90	85	85	81
Mining	266	273	453	422	224	367	171	159	84	138	194	202	286	317	450	488	147	163	232	252
Utilities	160	157	163	173	178	181	102	108	111	113	410	406	428	410	393	393	104	100	96	96
Construction	1,106	1,134	1,146	1,287	1,158	1,193	104	116	105	108	4,574	4,198	5,280	5,339	5,318	4,796	115	117	116	105
Manufacturing	2,176	2,170	2,674	2,844	2,860	2,866	123	131	131	132	2,105	1,932	2,172	2,475	3,242	3,018	103	118	154	143
Wholesale Trade	482	495	628	739	625	572	130	153	130	119	2,961	2,880	3,297	3,321	3,338	3,333	111	112	113	113
Retail Trade	1,638	1,736	1,817	1,760	1,778	1,750	111	108	109	107	11,641	10,816	13,013	12,495	11,900	11,999	112	107	102	103
Transport & Warehousing	1,004	971	1,050	1,029	904	876	105	103	90	87	1,673	1,543	2,569	2,108	2,308	2,470	154	126	138	148
Information	164	152	206	168	140	135	126	103	86	82	1,535	1,029	2,017	1,107	906	825	131	72	59	54
Finance and Insurance	225	231	273	313	307	513	121	139	137	228	2,459	2,425	2,587	2,565	2,426	2,461	105	104	99	100
Real Estate and Rental	194	186	214	195	163	151	111	101	84	78	1,166	1,004	1,170	1,061	960	969	100	91	82	83
Professional & Tech Svcs.	224	213	302	330	309	315	135	148	138	141	3,299	3,098	3,738	3,747	3,888	4,089	113	114	118	124
Mgmt. of Enterprises	79	81	116	142	215	196	147	180	274	250	985	931	1,001	1,255	1,208	1,148	102	127	123	117
Admin. & Waste Services	835	1,012	1,031	893	1,010	1,111	123	107	121	133	2,013	1,811	3,233	2,937	2,583	2,733	161	146	128	136
Health Care & Soc. Assist.	1,184	1,158	1,234	1,388	1,399	1,436	104	117	118	121	12,495	11,132	12,807	13,234	13,517	13,949	103	106	108	112
Arts/Entertainment	277	163	262	245	183	179	95	88	66	65	1,361	840	1,435	1,553	1,489	1,264	105	114	109	93
Accommodation and Food	1,023	1,019	1,168	1,095	1,218	1,118	114	107	119	109	8,233	6,089	8,556	8,850	9,047	8,494	104	107	110	103
Other Services	254	255	258	338	365	323	102	133	144	127	1,843	1,460	1,988	1,977	1,955	1,901	108	107	106	103
Public Administration	522	495	610	660	783	728	117	126	150	139	2,808	2,647	2,964	3,072	3,194	3,115	106	109	114	111
Total Earnings ($Mill) per qtr*	119	128	156	174	170	180	131	146	142	152	517	551	649	668	680	742	126	129	132	144
Avg. Weekly Wage*	708	741	816	876	859	904	115	124	121	128	577	641	659	685	695	759	114	119	120	132
Population (Thou)**	45.6	52.3	47.9	47.5	47.4	47.2	105	104	104	104	217.4	200.6	225.9	228.9	232.2	233.3	104	105	107	107
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.1	24.8	4.7	4.8	8.0	8.1	77	78	130	132	4.2	15.8	3.2	3.5	5.2	4.8	77	83	126	115
Unemploy Claims per week (Initial)	45	368	32	39	58	52	72	87	129	115	95	504	72	102	147	139	76	107	154	146
Unemploy Claims per week (Continued)	396	3,580	286	312	709	893	72	79	179	226	807	4,529	568	771	1,726	1,920	70	96	214	238
Construction Contracts per month: ($Mill)***																				
Residential	4.8	3.9	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.1	28	36	31	24	43.1	30.9	26.9	19.1	9.6	14.3	62	44	22	33
Residential in Progress	25.6	31.6	42.1	10.5	17.1	22.2	164	41	67	87	424.5	361.5	363.7	179.2	97.3	107.7	86	42	23	25
Non-Residential	0.2	0.6	335.3	7.4	0.1	0.3	201160	4440	40	180	3.1	2.9	24.7	8.8	10.3	6.8	787	282	330	218
Non-Residential in Progress	27.5	24.6	1,018.9	1,051.0	38.0	8.6	3705	3822	138	31	144.7	119.9	340.0	422.0	286.5	314.5	235	292	198	217
Taxable Sales ($Mill) per month[a]	55	85	66	121	170	n/a	119	218	306	n/a	254	345	328	308	284	270	129	121	112	106
Motor Vehicle Sales ($Mill) per month	7	9	9	7	9	5	121	98	122	74	41	77	48	40	33	31	116	96	80	76

** Employment, earnings and wages current only through December 2009. The number of jobs and corresponding wages are for establishments subject to unemployment insurance taxation. Notable exclusions are employees of very small businesses (under 4 employees), self-employed persons, and salespersons on commission-only bases.*

*** Population current through first quarter 2010*

****Construction figures are supplied by McGraw-Hill Construction, Dodge.*

a – St. John parish sales taxes include both sales and use taxes.

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