

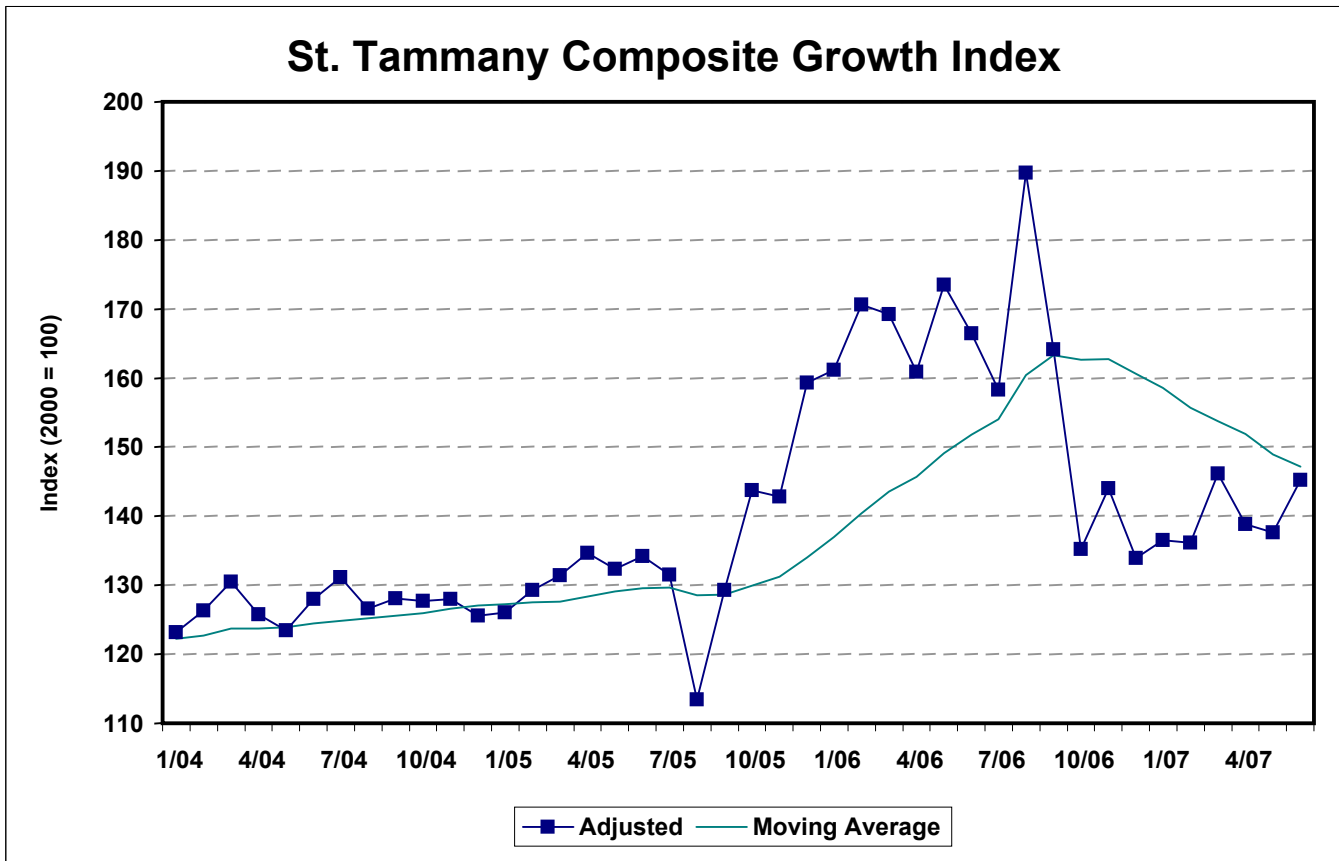
# St. Tammany Economic Growth Index

St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation

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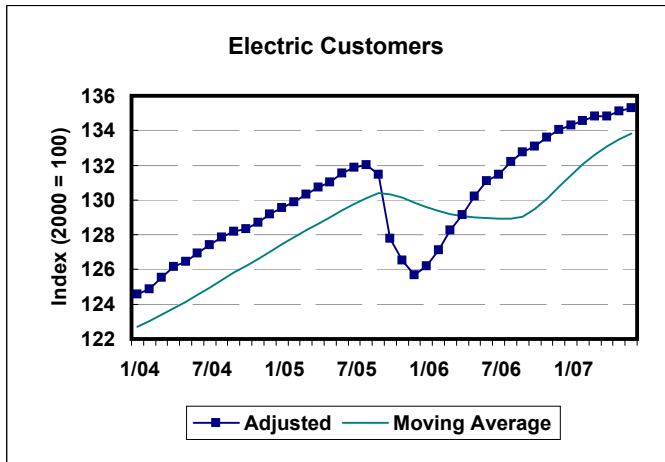
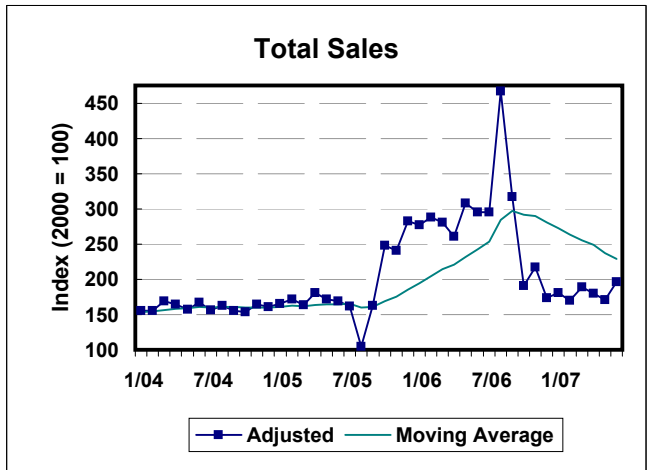
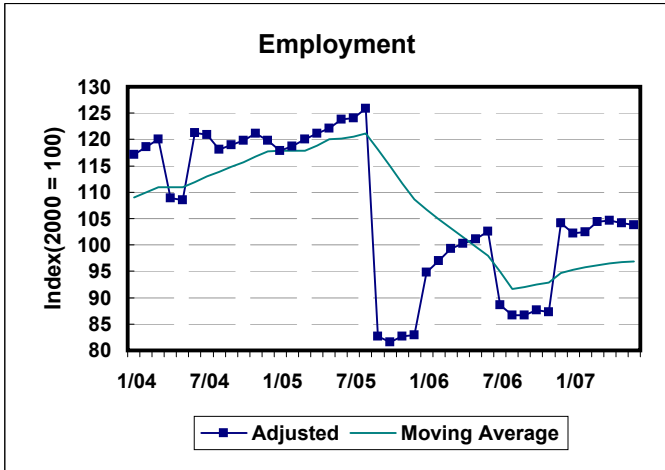
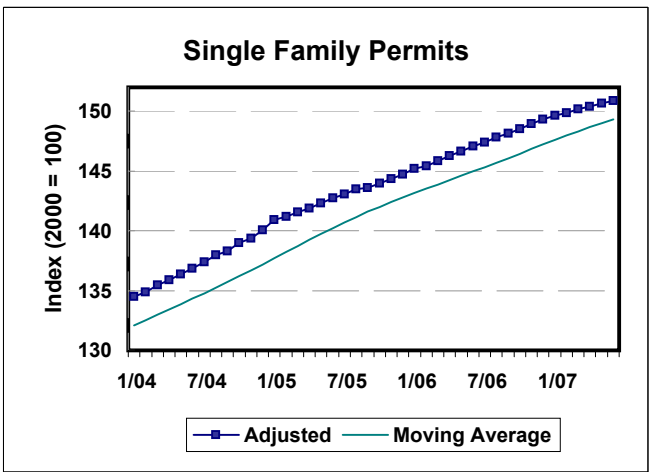
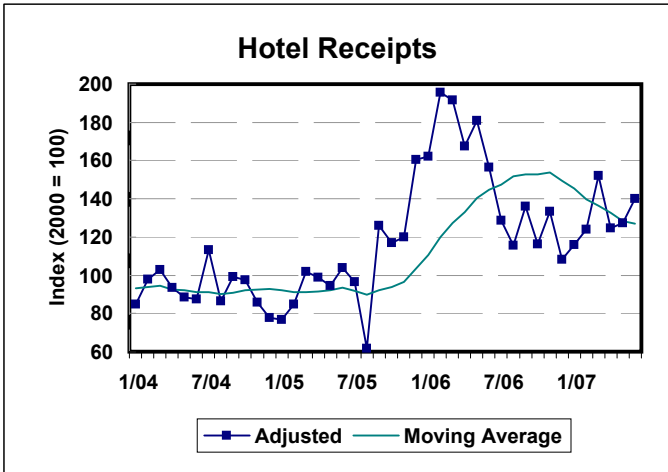
## Notes

The St. Tammany Parish Economic Growth Index is an economic measure of economic expansion comparing changes in several economic components over time and, collectively, tracking changes and growth of the St. Tammany economy. Components used to develop the composite economic index include employment, single family building permits, Parish total sales (computed from parish sales tax), electric customers, and hotel receipts. Weighted ratios are total to produce a composite index. For a glance of the components comprising the composite index, see the back of the page.

## Quarterly Summary

Parish twelve-month economy through 2Q07 shows a 3.1% decline. Quarter over quarter comparison indicates a decline of 15.8%. The main reason for these declines is not that the economy has declined. Quite the opposite. The 2Q07 comparison with 2Q06 continues to be like comparing apples to oranges. 2Q06 was one of the recovery quarters after hurricane Katrina and experienced abnormally high total retail and housing sales. 2Q07 is past the critical recovery period and is in the period of stabilization where levels for most components are being reestablished. When 2Q07 component levels are compared to 2Q05 components, with exception of employment, growth is significant. As an example, 2Q07 retail sales compared with 2Q05 sales results in an increase of 27.5%. This is an example of reestablishing normal sales level for future months and years. Contributors to the current twelve-month growth were single family permits, up 3.0%; and electric customer count, up 3.0%. The employment component is undergoing updates from 1Q07 through 2Q07. In the employment updating process there were several months after the hurricane when there was no reporting of employment for the Parish. It will take several months to bring normalcy to employment and other component month over month comparisons. That normalcy may occur in the 3Q07 over 3Q06 comparison. In summary, the Parish economy continues to show strength while normal growth pattern is returning the economy resulting in a smooth operation.

## St. Tammany Economy At A Glance



Sources: St. Tammany Sheriff's Office; St. Tammany Parish Permit Office, Washington-St. Tammany Electric Co-op, CLECO, Louisiana Department of Labor, and St. Tammany Parish Tourist and Convention Commission. The ST. TAMMANY ECONOMIC GROWTH INDEX is developed by John C. Borland, CCR, Director of Borland Econometrics and published quarterly by the St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation. Correspondence should be addressed to: 21454 Koop Drive, Suite 2-E1, Mandeville, LA 70471. Telephone: (985) 809-7874. Web: [www.stedf.org](http://www.stedf.org). Copyright 2004. All rights reserved.