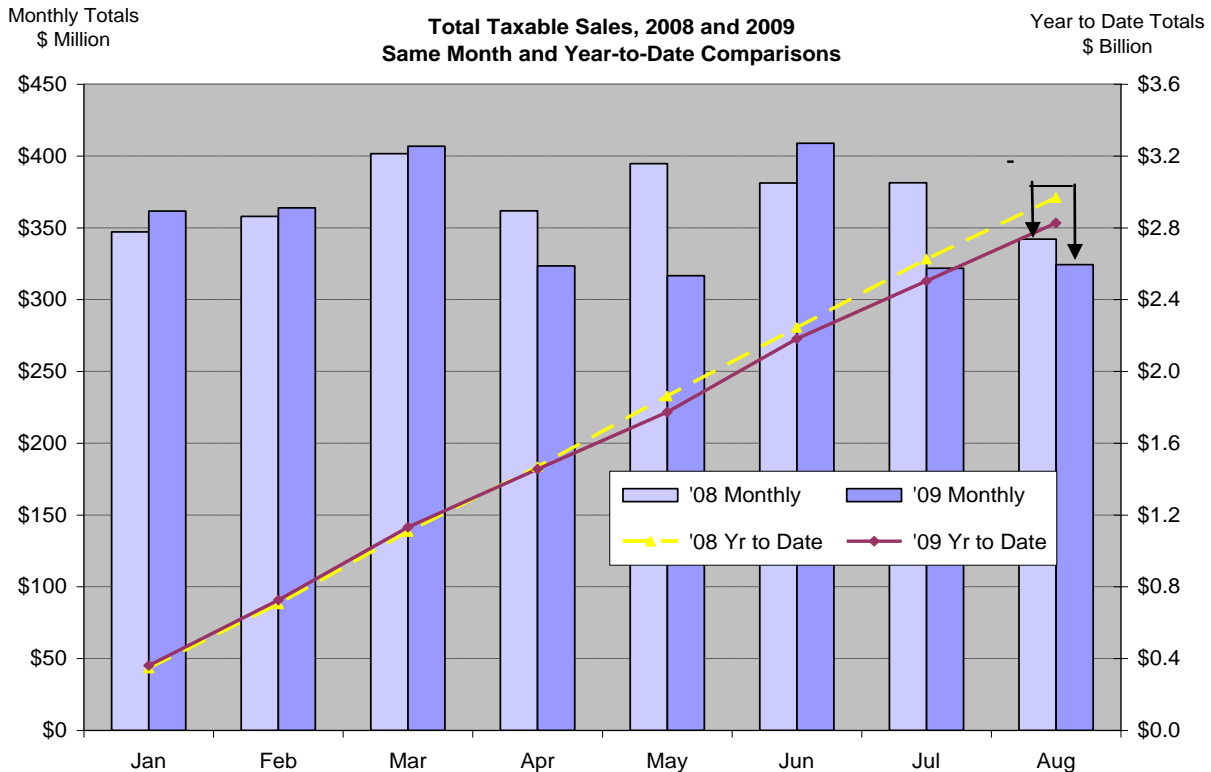


SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

October 19, 2009

Taxable Spending in Calcasieu Parish—Total and by Category



Total taxable spending reached \$324.3 million in August—about \$2.4 million more than in July, but 5.2% less than August 2008—see chart. Compared the same period a year ago, cumulative total taxable spending over the January through August period of 2009 lagged by 4.7%—see table. In the first eight months of 2009, taxable spending outpaced the 2008 figures in only two of the eleven reported categories—food and utilities.

Cumulative Taxable Spending by Category--1st Eight Months 2009 Compared to 2008

	<u>% Change</u>		<u>% Change</u>
Food	+ 14.2 %	Misc Services	- 13.2 %
Apparel	- 1.9 %	Manufacturing	- 9.7 %
Merchandise	- 1.1 %	Utilities	+ 146.1 %
Automotive	- 4.4 %	Misc Sales	- 17.6 %
Furniture	- 7.6 %	Motor Vehicle	- 21.3 %
Building Materials	- 19.9 %	Total Taxable Sales	- 4.7 %

H.C. Drew Center for Economic Development
College of Business Administration
McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana

Excellence with a Personal Touch
Member of University of Louisiana System

Contacts—Dr. Douglas McNeil, Center Director, 337-475-5560, dmcniel@mcneese.edu; Leo Geng, Database Manager, 337-475-5564, DrewEconDev@mcneese.edu.

Visit our webpage at www.mcneese.edu/drewecon to view the Center's graphical database and quarterly *Southwest Louisiana Economic Indicator* reports.