

# Baton Rouge Regional (RLMA 2) Job Vacancy Survey, 2007 Second Quarter



Employers' Responses to the Open-ended Question: In trying to fill this position, what is the greatest difficulty you have faced, if any?		
Difficulty	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	78	20.6%
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	49	13.0
The work ethic of people, once they are hired, is unacceptable. Comments included social skills, appearance, trustworthy, attitude, maturity, able to fit in with existing culture, and dependability.	49	13.0
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	44	11.6
Some aspect of the job is undesirable to applicants (such as shifts, weekends, nights, holidays, overtime, travel, environment, schedule changes, heavy lifting, on call, etc.)	37	9.8
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	28	7.4
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	24	6.3
Applicants availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	18	4.8
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	16	4.2
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	15	4.0
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	12	3.2
Some other difficulty mentioned.	8	2.1
<b>Total Responding to the Open-ended Question</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>100%</b>

*These answers are not necessarily verbatim responses, but a compilation of similar responses.*

## Industry Group vs. Occupational Group Explanation

An industry is a group of establishments, categorized according to the goods or services they provide. For purposes of this study, many of the industry sectors are grouped together to provide summary information. For instance, the industry sectors of Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade, Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities are combined to form a summary industry group called Trade, Transportation, and Utilities.

An occupational group is a group of workers, categorized according to the skills they have and what they do on the job. For example, Healthcare Practitioner and Technical Occupations is one occupational group that includes many different types of occupations such as Dentists, Optometrists, Therapists, Veterinarians, Diagnostic related Technologists and Technicians, and Medical Records and Health Information Technicians. These are just a few of the occupations you can find in this occupational group.

Each industry contains a variety of occupations, and many occupations may be found in every industry. Using Healthcare Services (part of the summary industry group of Educational and Health Services) as an example, you may find the following occupations in a hospital: doctors, therapists, office managers, medical records clerks, housekeepers, nurses, food preparation workers, and maintenance workers.

## Methodology

During the second quarter 2007, a Job Vacancy Survey was conducted based on a random sample of Louisiana establishments covered by the Louisiana unemployment insurance tax laws. The sample was stratified by firm size, RLMA, and industry. The total sample size was 7,933 with an overall response rate of 39 percent. The Second Quarter 2007 Job Vacancy Survey reports for the state and eight RLMA's can be found on the Louisiana Department of Labor's Web site: [www.LAWORKS.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_JVS.asp).

The purpose of a Job Vacancy Survey (JVS) is to identify the number and types of jobs available in specific industries and regions of the state. The survey results provide a unique snapshot of the conditions in a given region and/or occupational labor market. The results of the survey assist educational units, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs. Regional Labor Market Area 2 (RLMA 2) is made up of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana parishes.

There were 20,000 job vacancies in RLMA 2 during the 2nd quarter 2007 resulting in a vacancy rate of 4.9 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, 5 jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 2,000 from the 2nd quarter of 2006, a 10 percent decrease. The largest number of job vacancies was found in Office and Administrative Services (approximately 2,800), while the highest vacancy rate (13.7 percent) was found in the Personal Care and Services group.

Professional and Business Services had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 4,700) when looking at the results by Industry Group (table below). The highest vacancy rate of

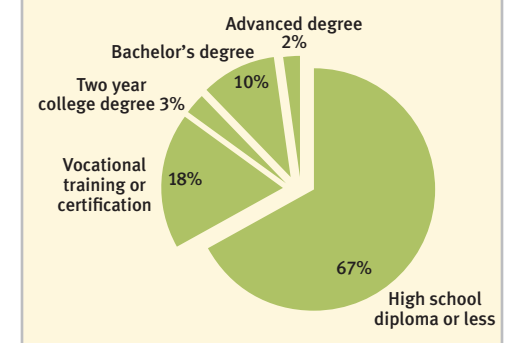
11 percent was found in the Other Services group.

Overall, RLMA 2 employers were seeking employees with experience in 57 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring a high school diploma or less was 67 percent of all vacancies. Less than 35 percent of the job vacancies required training past high school with 21 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree.

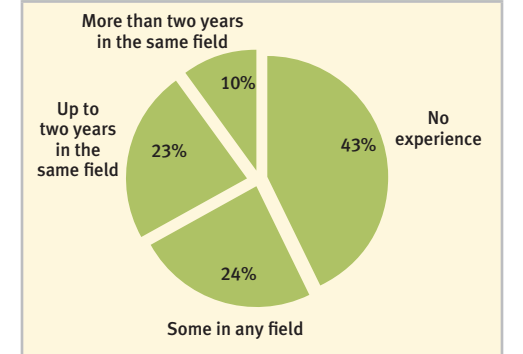
For jobs paying \$5.15 or less, there were more than 600 vacancies. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were about 6,500 vacancies; \$7.01–\$10.00 there were more than 5,500 vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were slightly more than 1,800 vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were slightly more than 1,300 vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were slightly less than 5,000 vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 2 for 2007 was approximately nine-tenths of the number of vacancies in 2006. About a fifth (21 percent) of the job vacancies for the state were found in RLMA 2.

## Educational Requirements of Job Vacancies



## Experience Requirements of Job Vacancies



Industry Group	Number of Job Vacancies	Industry Employment <sup>1</sup>	Median Hourly Wage	Vacancy Rate, Percent		
				2007Q2	2006Q2	2005Q2
Professional & Business Services	4,679	48,722	\$11.88	9.6%	5.4%	2.5%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4,637	81,016	8.00	5.7	5.9	2.7
Education & Health Services	2,879	94,704	10.00	3.0	3.7	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	2,240	38,060	6.38	5.9	8.7	5.4
Construction	1,537	45,483	13.50	3.4	9.7	2.5
Other Services	1,344	12,218	10.00	11.0	12.0	9.6
Financial Activities	1,034	20,616	11.00	5.0	3.3	5.3
Manufacturing	798	30,552	11.00	2.6	3.3	0.7
Public Administration	488	30,867	15.23	1.6	1.2	1.5
Natural Resources & Mining	208	3,070	17.50	6.8	4.2	1.0
Information	192	7,154	13.43	2.7	2.9	0.6
Unclassified	NA	525	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,035</b>	<b>412,987</b>	<b>\$8.50</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>

<sup>1</sup> 2007 Q2

Unclassified for Employment: Industry NAICS could not be determined  
Unclassified for Job Vacancy: Occupational Code could not be determined  
NA: Not Available

# Baton Rouge Regional (RLMA 2)

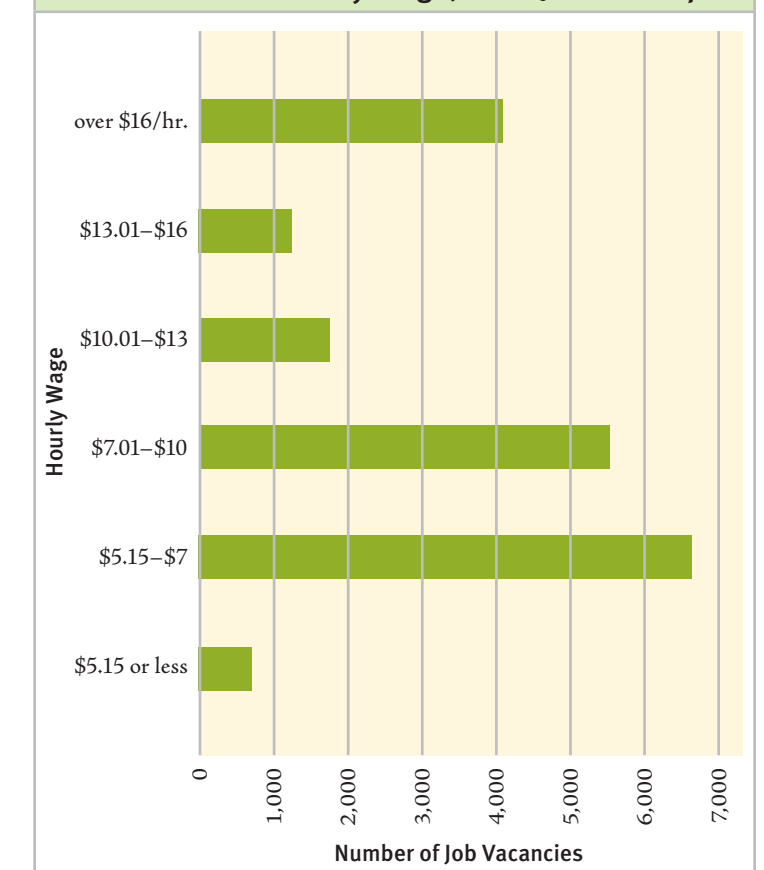
## Job Vacancy Survey, 2007 Second Quarter



Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation	Percent Requiring at Least Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Number of Days Position Was Vacant	Median Hourly Wage	Vacancy Rate, Percent		
							2007Q2	2006Q2	2005Q2
Architecture & Engineering	795	7,470	67.0%	65.4%	36	\$22.84	10.6%	1.9%	2.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	134	4,280	100	63.2	19	20.79	3.1	11.9	0.1
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	818	12,710	24.3	0.0	21	6.75	6.4	11.6	1.7
Business & Financial Operations	539	16,180	91.0	92.5	35	15.94	3.3	4.7	5.6
Community & Social Services	106	5,780	71.8	36.5	5	13.76	1.8	7.3	3.1
Computer & Mathematical Science	122	5,740	60.9	71.7	28	17.25	2.1	3.3	2.6
Construction & Extraction	1,807	32,400	78.6	48.4	21	13.50	5.6	12.0	3.4
Education, Training & Library	232	22,790	63.7	66.0	30	15.86	1.0	4.1	1.6
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	0	650	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,426	31,660	44.0	3.1	7	6.13	7.7	9.0	5.4
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	1,109	22,380	81.6	78.5	60	17.61	5.0	2.7	2.3
Healthcare Support	1,027	9,720	62.6	37.4	30	7.70	10.6	4.0	2.9
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	977	19,120	70.6	49.4	60	13.00	5.1	10.6	4.6
Legal	89	2,800	15.4	98.9	135	16.83	3.2	0.0	0.1
Life, Physical & Social Science	37	3,620	89.0	97.3	44	15.87	1.0	0.3	0.1
Management	389	21,920	99.5	81.6	90	17.04	1.8	0.6	1.7
Military	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Classifiable Occupations	162	NA	84.1	18.9	34	14.13	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	2,757	66,790	58.8	17.2	21	9.38	4.1	2.5	1.8
Personal Care & Service	1,166	8,490	41.0	32.0	42	7.00	13.7	8.4	2.1
Production	914	24,880	59.2	30.0	14	10.50	3.7	5.1	1.8
Protective Service	1,256	13,280	12.2	0.0	18	8.83	9.5	3.0	0.5
Sales & Related	1,906	43,120	40.7	17.7	14	7.25	4.4	4.6	2.6
Transportation & Material Moving	1,267	29,050	36.1	10.3	29	7.76	4.4	7.0	5.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,035</b>	<b>404,830</b>	<b>57.0%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>\$8.50</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	1,034
Retail Salespersons	774
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	699
Cashiers	629
Registered Nurses	610
Construction Laborers	501
Dishwashers	491
Cooks, Fast Food	464
Customer Service Representatives	451
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	448

RLMA 2 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter 2007



NA: Not Available