

# Houma Regional (RLMA 3) Job Vacancy Survey, 2006 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
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	43	35.8%
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	17	14.2
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	12	10.0
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	11	9.2
Some other difficulty mentioned.	10	8.3
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	9	7.5
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.)	7	5.8
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.	4	3.3
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	4	3.3
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	3	2.5
<b>Total Responding to the Open-ended Question</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.0%</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 & 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 Education & 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 2006, a Job Vacancy Survey was conducted based on a random sample of Louisiana establishments covered by the Louisiana's unemployment insurance tax laws. The sample was stratified by firm size, regional labor market area, and industry. The total sample size was 9,933 with an overall response rate of 34 percent. This survey was taken after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Second Quarter 2006 Job Vacancy Survey reports for the state and eight regional labor market areas (RLMAs) can be found on the LDOL Web site: [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_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. The Regional Labor Market Area 3 (RLMA 3) is made up of Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne parishes.

There were approximately 4,000 job vacancies in RLMA 3 during the 2nd quarter 2006 resulting in a vacancy rate of 4.3 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately 4 1/3 jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies increased by approximately 1,700 over 2nd quarter 2005, a 76 percent increase. The largest number of job vacancies was found in Production (approximately 700). Vacancy rates over 20 percent were found in Legal (28.3 percent); Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media (25.1 percent); Computer and Mathematical Science (21.8 percent); and Protective Service (21.6 percent).

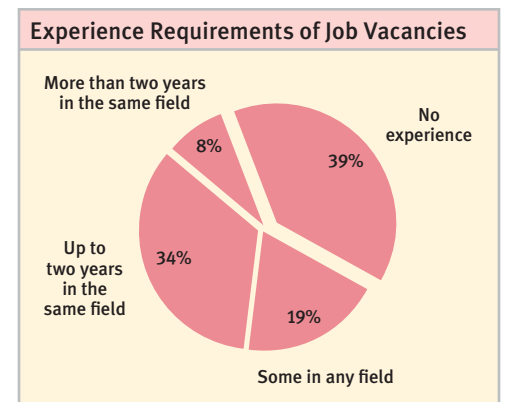
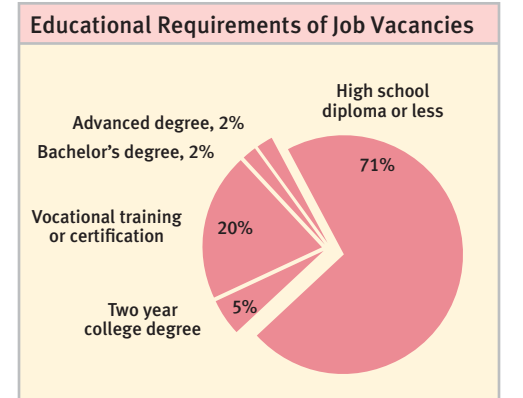
Trade, Transportation and Utilities had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately

870) when looking at the results by Industry Group (table below). The highest vacancy rate of 9.1 percent was found in Professional and Business Services.

Overall, RLMA 3 employers were seeking employees with experience in 61 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring high school diploma or less increased by approximately 114 percent over 2005 JVS results. Approximately 30 percent of the job vacancies required training past high school with 25 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree.

For job vacancies paying \$5.15 or less, there were 24 percent more in 2006 than in 2005. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were 73 percent more vacancies; \$7.01–\$10.00 there were 40 percent more vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were 18 percent more job vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were 124 percent more job vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were 186 percent more vacancies.

The number of job vacancies for 2006 was approximately 1.8 times more than the number in 2005. Less than one-twentieth (3 percent) of the job vacancies for the state were found in RLMA 3.



Industry Group	Number of Job Vacancies	Industry Employment		Vacancy Rate, Percent		Median Hourly Wage	
		Pre-Katrina	Post-Katrina	Pre-Katrina	Post-Katrina	Pre-Katrina	Post-Katrina
Trade,Transportaion & Utilities	869	21,940	23,346	2.4%	3.7%	\$7.30	\$7.00
Professional & Business Services	820	8,450	9,043	2.7	9.1	10.50	10.00
Manufacturing	538	9,257	9,794	4.5	5.5	9.88	16.00
Education & Health Services	468	19,060	18,029	1.1	2.6	11.50	5.35
Construction	448	4,856	6,589	2.7	6.8	7.50	21.00
Leisure & Hospitality	217	7,089	7,389	3.1	2.9	5.85	6.00
Public Administration	198	3,074	2,983	5.9	6.6	8.04	9.00
Other Services	167	2,081	2,245	5.3	7.4	5.15	7.50
Financial Activities	149	5,331	5,814	2.8	2.6	25.00	8.54
Natural Resources & Mining	83	6,783	6,978	1.0	1.2	NA	5.50
Information	5	900	869	1.3	0.6	15.50	8.75
Unclassified	0	36	71	NA	0.0	NA	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>88,857</b>	<b>93,150</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>\$9.31</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>

Pre-Katrina Data 2nd Quarter 2005

Post-Katrina Data 2nd Quarter 2006

Unclassified for Employment: Industry NAICS could not be determined

Unclassified for Job Vacancy: Occupational Code could not be determined

NA: Not Available

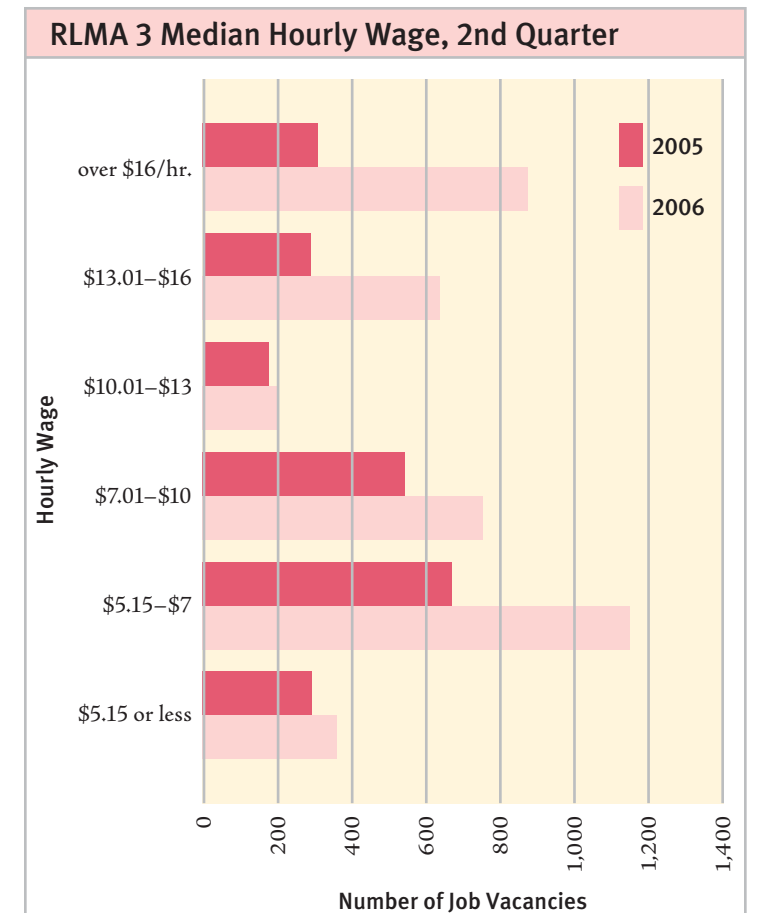
# Houma Regional (RLMA 3)

## Job Vacancy Survey, 2006 Second Quarter



Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation	Percent Requiring at Least Some Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Number of Days Position was Vacant	Median Hourly Wage		Vacancy Rate, Percent	
						Pre-Katrina	Post-Katrina	Pre-Katrina	Post-Katrina
Architecture & Engineering	35	890	71.4%	71.4%	30	\$39.23	\$50.00	1.5%	3.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	65	260	100.0	3.1	30	NA	10.00	0.0	25.1
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	136	2,330	29.4	0.7	60	6.32	6.00	0.3	5.8
Business & Financial Operations	12	1,880	100.0	NA	60	19.00	NA	0.2	0.6
Community & Social Services	0	1,090	0.0	0.0	0	8.16	0.00	1.7	0.0
Computer & Mathematical Science	63	290	NA	100.0	180	NA	NA	1.2	21.8
Construction & Extraction	514	6,140	97.7	8.6	60	11.50	14.00	1.7	8.4
Education, Training & Library	142	5,690	NA	31.6	210	NA	5.35	0.2	2.5
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	25	200	NA	NA	90	NA	5.50	0.0	12.5
Food Preparation & Serving Related	386	6,500	43.6	NA	14	5.50	6.00	5.0	5.9
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	85	3,820	60.0	100.0	30	15.00	6.75	1.2	2.2
Healthcare Support	77	2,100	22.0	22.0	60	6.61	7.00	2.5	3.7
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	316	4,690	65.5	36.4	30	8.38	8.54	1.6	6.7
Legal	71	250	100.0	100.0	14	19.54	21.63	15.7	28.3
Life, Physical & Social Science	0	230	0.0	0.0	0	NA	0.00	0.0	0.0
Management	0	4,730	0.0	0.0	0	11.54	0.00	0.6	0.0
Non-Classifiable Occupations	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	223	12,610	74.5	33.1	14	7.69	9.00	1.9	1.8
Personal Care & Service	291	1,750	9.4	9.4	14	7.50	5.75	3.2	16.6
Production	682	8,910	95.8	21.6	180	9.25	16.50	5.2	7.7
Protective Service	253	1,170	NA	39.8	300	5.88	7.00	0.8	21.6
Sales & Related	245	8,750	23.5	22.3	120	8.00	5.15	2.9	2.8
Transportation & Material Moving	339	14,080	94.3	81.7	60	9.48	23.08	4.7	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>88,360</b>	<b>60.8%</b>	<b>29.2%</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>\$8.98</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	463
Captains, Mates, & Pilots of Water Vessels	206
Personal & Home Care Aides	190
Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	175
Cashiers	152
Security Guards	152
Cooks, All Other	114
Food Preparation Workers	113
Waiters & Waitresses	112
Carpenters	103



Pre-Katrina Data 2nd Quarter 2005  
 Post-Katrina Data 2nd Quarter 2006  
 NA: Not Available

Revised November 2007