

Monroe Regional (RLMA 8) 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.	16	21.3%
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	9	12.0
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	7	9.3
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	7	9.3
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	9.3
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	6	8.0
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	6	8.0
Some other difficulty mentioned.	5	6.7
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	5	6.7
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	4	5.3
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.	3	4.0
Total Responding to the Open-ended Question	75	100.0%

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.

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 8 (RLMA 8) is made up of Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll parishes.

There were approximately 2,900 job vacancies in RLMA 8 during the 2nd quarter 2006 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.6 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately 2 ½ jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies increased by approximately 750 over 2nd quarter 2005, a 35 percent increase. The largest number of job vacancies (approximately 570) was found in Healthcare Practitioner and Technical while the largest vacancy rate (13.7 percent) was found in Personal Care and Service.

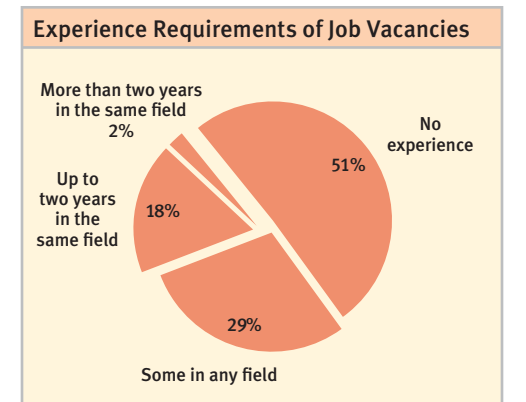
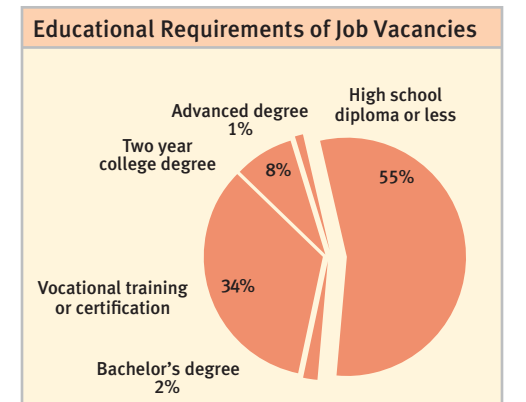
Trade, Transportation & Utilities had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 1,200) when looking at the results by Industry Group (table below). The highest vacancy rate

of 17.5 percent was found in the Other Services group. Other Services consist of repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, membership associations and organizations, and private households.

Overall, RLMA 8 employers were seeking employees without experience in 51 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring high school diploma or less increased by approximately 23 percent over 2005 JVS results. Approximately 45 percent of the job vacancies required training past high school with 42 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree

For job vacancies paying \$5.15 or less, there were 83 percent less in 2006 than in 2005. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were 36 percent more vacancies; \$7.01–\$10.00 there were 144 percent more vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were 41 percent less job vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were 162 percent more job vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were 58 percent less vacancies.

The number of job vacancies for 2006 was approximately 1.35 times more than the number in 2005. Approximately one-fiftieth (2 percent) of the job vacancies for the state was found in RLMA 8.



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, Transportation & Utilities	1,176	22,199	22,499	2.3%	5.2%	\$7.13	\$16.00
Other Services	563	3,177	3,213	7.7	17.5	6.00	7.00
Education & Health Services	555	32,713	32,832	1.9	1.7	12.48	8.00
Manufacturing	171	12,526	11,649	0.7	1.5	9.56	7.50
Construction	144	5,665	5,904	2.4	2.4	8.00	14.00
Financial Activities	139	6,301	6,274	3.0	2.2	10.00	11.97
Professional & Business Services	112	8,955	9,455	3.2	1.2	6.75	17.00
Leisure & Hospitality	47	9,117	9,288	0.5	0.5	6.00	5.55
Information	29	2,108	2,143	0.0	1.4	NA	6.00
Public Administration	2	6,246	6,232	0.2	0.0	13.05	14.00
Natural Resources & Mining	0	2,644	2,418	1.1	0.0	4.38	NA
Unclassified	0	88	96	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	2,938	111,739	112,003	2.0%	2.6%	\$8.86	\$8.65

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

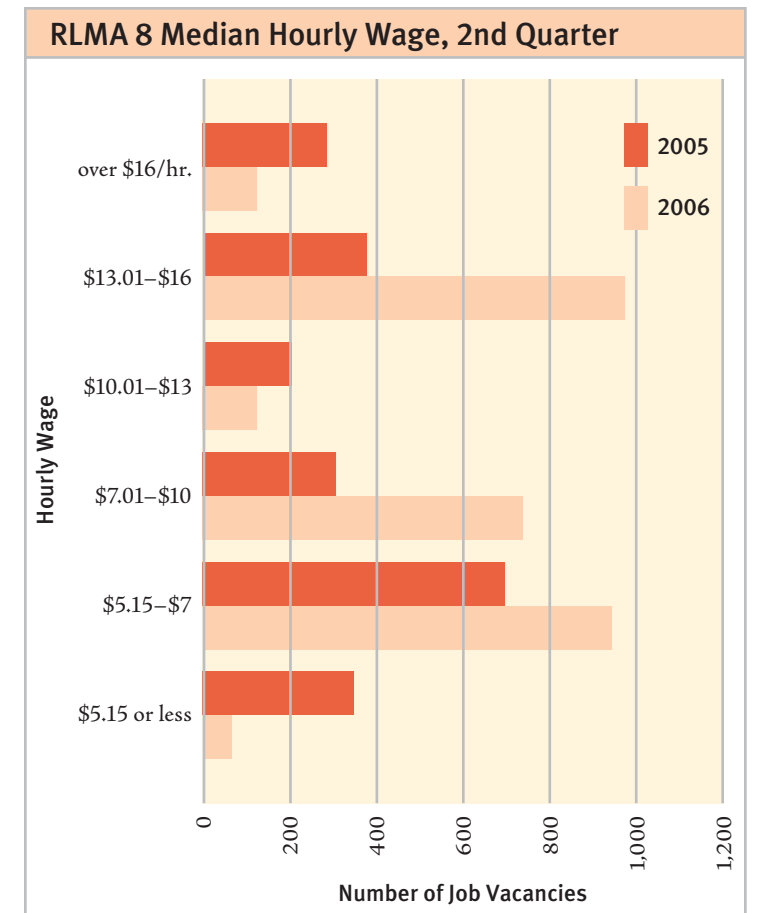
Monroe Regional (RLMA 8)

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	20	1,010	100.0%	10.3%	14	NA	\$15.00	5.5%	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	23	840	10.9	19.6	28	12.02	6.00	1.5	2.7
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	6	3,590	NA	NA	90	5.55	5.93	0.5	0.2
Business & Financial Operations	10	2,520	100.0	79.7	14	14.29	14.00	4.2	0.4
Community & Social Services	0	1,910	0.0	0.0	0	13.05	0.00	0.4	0.0
Computer & Mathematical Science	1	1,260	100.0	100.0	14	14.58	NA	0.4	0.1
Construction & Extraction	158	4,760	100.0	NA	360	15.00	14.00	3.2	3.3
Education, Training & Library	49	7,840	2.0	89.8	90	17.07	14.42	1.1	0.6
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	0	900	0.0	0.0	0	4.38	0.00	3.4	0.0
Food Preparation & Serving Related	8	8,560	NA	NA	14	6.00	6.00	1.2	0.1
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	568	8,440	26.9	100.0	180	15.37	16.00	3.3	6.7
Healthcare Support	189	4,040	5.3	100.0	21	7.26	6.15	3.1	4.7
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	354	5,580	100.0	27.4	90	12.90	14.50	4.5	6.3
Legal	0	750	0.0	0.0	0	NA	0.00	0.0	0.0
Life, Physical & Social Science	1	290	NA	100.0	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.3
Management	1	5,050	NA	100.0	NA	15.87	NA	2.3	0.0
Non-Classifiable Occupations	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	34.62	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	174	19,440	24.0	22.9	21	9.62	8.00	1.2	0.9
Personal Care & Service	387	2,820	27.4	2.0	4	5.50	7.00	4.3	13.7
Production	232	8,590	59.2	0.5	7	8.38	7.50	0.7	2.7
Protective Service	28	3,500	NA	91.1	450	7.50	8.45	0.4	0.8
Sales & Related	107	11,190	97.2	46.1	28	5.15	6.40	1.4	1.0
Transportation & Material Moving	60	8,620	88.2	10.1	7	7.88	8.00	2.5	0.7
Total	2,938	111,500	49.4%	44.8%	28	\$10.95	\$8.65	1.9%	2.6%

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	425
Personal Care & Service Workers, All Other	234
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	189
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, <i>Except Engines</i>	141
Helpers-Production Workers	123
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	97
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production & Operating Workers	94
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	91
Personal & Home Care Aides	80
Registered Nurses	80



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

Revised November 2007