

New Orleans Regional (RLMA 1) 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.	215	34.0%
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	96	15.2
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	56	8.9
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	50	7.9
Some other difficulty mentioned.	46	7.3
Applicants availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	34	5.4
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.)	33	5.2
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.	32	5.1
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	30	4.7
Turnover- keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	19	3.0
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	11	1.7
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	10	1.6
Total Responding to the Open-ended Question	632	100.00%

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. Regional Labor Market Area 1 (RLMA 1) is made up of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and St. Tammany parishes.

There were approximately 59,700 job vacancies in RLMA 1 during the 2nd quarter 2006 resulting in a vacancy rate of 12.5 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately 12 ½ jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies increased by approximately 37,500 over 2nd quarter 2005, a 170 percent increase. The largest number of job vacancies was found in Office and Administrative Support (approximately 7,000). There were three Occupational Group classifications with a vacancy rate over 19 percent. They were Personal Care and Service (19.8 percent), Construction and Extraction (19.7 percent), and Installation, Maintenance and Repair (19.4 percent).

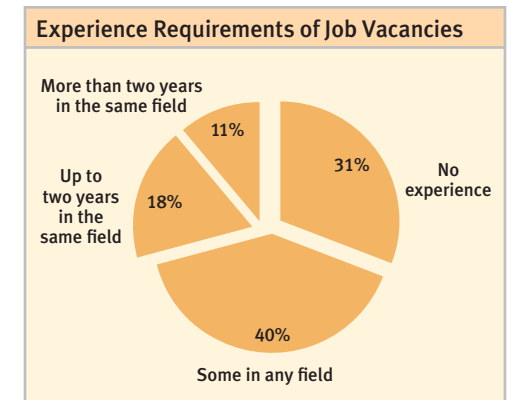
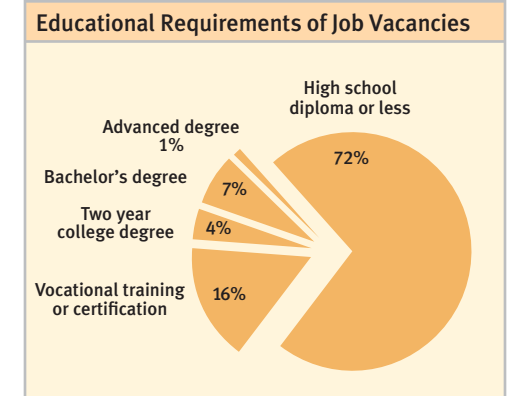
Professional and Business Services had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately

12,000) when looking at the results by Industry Group (table below). The highest vacancy rate of 46 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 1 employers were seeking employees with experience in 69 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring high school diploma or less increased approximately 179 percent over 2005 JVS results. Less than 30 percent of the job vacancies required training past high school with 20 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree.

For job vacancies paying \$5.15 or less, there were 20 percent more in 2006 than in 2005. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were 132 percent more vacancies; \$7.01–\$10.00 there were 617 percent more vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were 5 percent less job vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were 284 percent more job vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were 66 percent more vacancies.

The number of job vacancies for 2006 was approximately 2.7 times more than the number in 2005. Almost half (48 percent) of the job vacancies for the state were found in RLMA 1, which was most affected by Hurricane Katrina.



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
Professional & Business Services	11,944	77,854	67,279	4.5%	17.8%	\$12.00	\$9.00
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	11,367	129,468	108,362	2.6	10.5	8.50	8.00
Leisure & Hospitality	8,674	89,179	59,111	4.4	14.7	6.50	8.00
Education & Health Services	6,459	134,492	92,090	2.7	7.0	12.00	7.21
Other Services	5,575	17,177	12,111	6.0	46.0	9.80	10.00
Construction	4,717	31,961	34,614	3.0	13.6	14.00	14.00
Financial Activities	3,764	32,963	25,823	3.1	14.6	14.00	9.00
Manufacturing	2,984	41,300	36,530	3.7	8.2	13.50	10.00
Unclassified	2,474	1,043	969	NA	NA	NA	8.00
Information	747	10,328	8,435	3.5	8.9	9.60	10.00
Public Administration	579	30,754	23,907	8.7	2.4	12.60	10.00
Natural Resources & Mining	487	9,028	8,519	2.4	5.7	12.50	12.00
Total	59,771	605,547	477,750	3.7%	12.5%	\$10.90	\$10.41

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

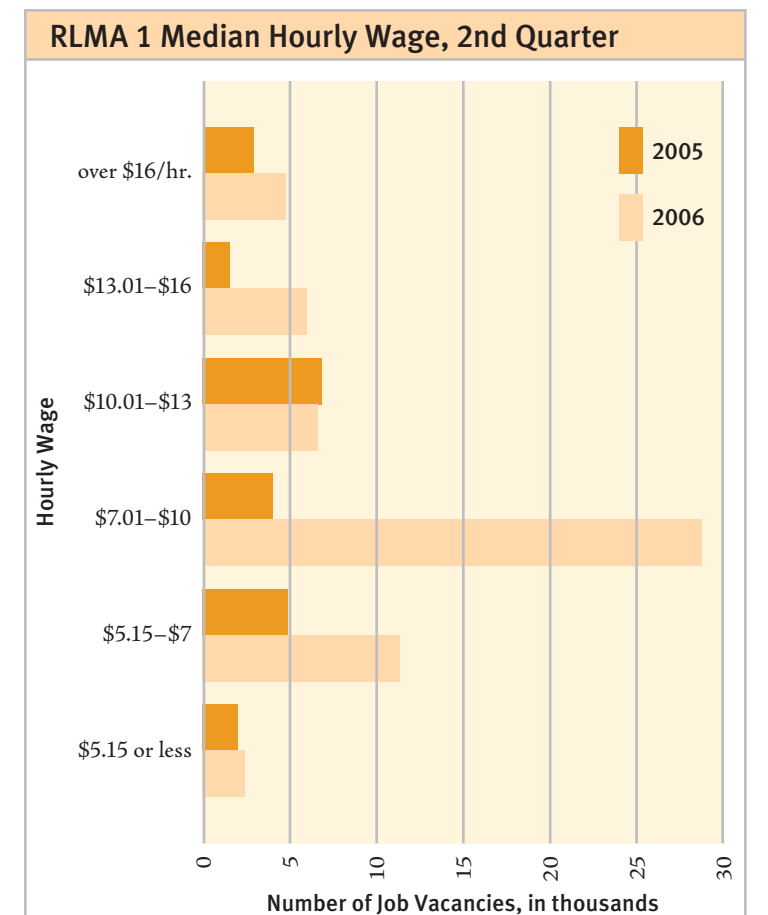
New Orleans Regional (RLMA 1)

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	1,511	9,190	96.7%	98.0%	30	\$11.48	\$12.00	4.0%	16.4%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	149	8,750	83.2	81.2	14	12.49	12.00	2.7	1.7
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	3,641	21,520	63.1	0.1	270	6.75	8.00	4.1	16.9
Business & Financial Operations	2,650	19,830	18.5	16.3	14	18.18	8.00	1.3	13.4
Community & Social Services	336	7,280	98.2	98.8	60	12.20	9.00	1.6	4.6
Computer & Mathematical Science	1,014	8,160	99.0	99.1	30	19.23	28.85	1.2	12.4
Construction & Extraction	5,656	28,650	88.7	18.0	270	12.00	9.50	6.1	19.7
Education, Training & Library	795	31,910	77.8	54.2	240	15.38	7.21	2.4	2.5
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	142	660	NA	NA	300	NA	15.00	0.0	21.5
Food Preparation & Serving Related	7,108	62,330	52.2	0.9	90	6.00	7.00	3.6	11.4
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	3,510	34,400	56.6	43.8	14	17.50	13.00	3.6	10.2
Healthcare Support	1,804	17,130	54.5	58.5	270	7.00	7.35	3.3	10.5
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	5,119	26,370	77.3	41.4	240	12.04	12.00	7.0	19.4
Legal	71	6,020	2.8	1.4	90	NA	10.00	0.2	1.2
Life, Physical & Social Science	230	4,080	47.6	47.6	180	11.34	8.00	7.7	5.6
Management	409	32,760	47.6	47.8	7	17.31	10.00	2.6	1.2
Non-Classifiable Occupations	706	NA	75.9	35.2	180	8.79	12.00	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	7,150	106,430	76.0	13.3	30	9.00	8.00	2.1	6.7
Personal Care & Service	3,688	18,590	58.0	15.6	60	6.32	7.00	6.3	19.8
Production	3,785	33,070	72.5	19.8	270	12.02	10.00	1.9	11.4
Protective Service	487	16,750	14.1	1.2	120	9.28	9.13	13.5	2.9
Sales & Related	5,561	66,020	45.1	34.8	30	6.50	8.00	3.4	8.4
Transportation & Material Moving	4,252	48,660	75.5	19.9	180	10.00	10.00	4.2	8.7
Total	59,771	608,560	68.6%	27.5%	91	\$10.10	\$10.41	3.7%	9.8%

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Retail Salespersons	2,665
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	2,260
Wholesale & Retail Buyers, <i>Except Farm Products</i>	2,060
Construction Laborers	1,866
Cashiers	1,866
Waiters & Waitresses	1,811
Automotive Body & Related Repairers	1,421
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	1,300
Legal Secretaries	1,167
Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	1,154



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

Revised November 2007