

# New Orleans Regional (RLMA 1) 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.	103	22.5%
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	58	12.7
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	55	12.0
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	44	9.6
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	34	7.4
Applicants availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	33	7.2
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.	31	6.8
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.)	30	6.6
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	28	6.1
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	18	3.9
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	15	3.3
Some other difficulty mentioned.	9	2.0
<b>Total Responding to the Open-ended Question</b>	<b>458</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 RLMAs 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 1 (RLMA 1) is made up of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and St. Tammany parishes.

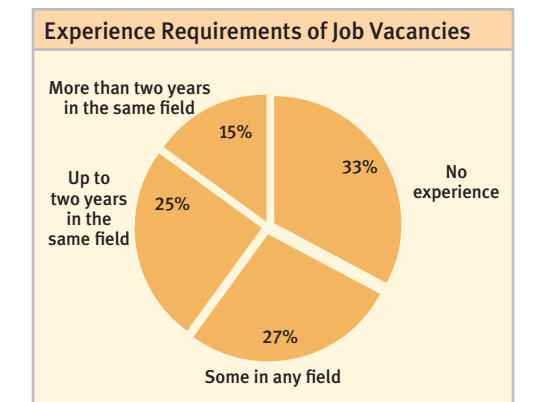
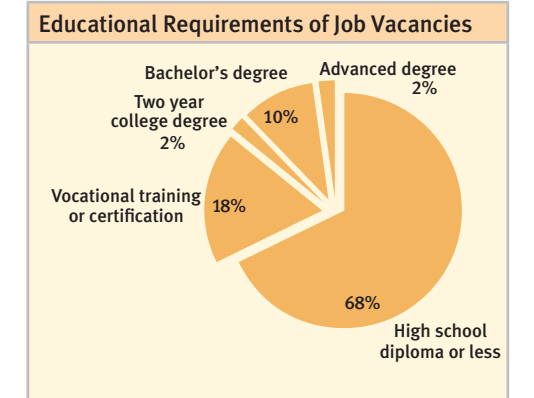
There were approximately 33,700 job vacancies in RLMA 1 during the 2nd quarter 2007 resulting in a vacancy rate of 7.3 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, slightly more than 7 jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 26,000 from the 2nd quarter of 2006, a 44 percent decrease. The largest number of job vacancies was found in Food Preparation and Service Related (approximately 5,000). The Architecture and Engineering Occupational Group had the highest vacancy rate (19 percent). Professional and Business Services had the largest number

of job vacancies (approximately 7,600) when looking at the results by Industry Group (table below). The highest vacancy rate of 22.1 percent was found in Other Services.

Overall, RLMA 1 employers were seeking employees with experience in 67 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring a high school diploma or less comprised 68 percent of all vacancies. More 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 jobs paying \$5.15 or less, there were more than 1,300 vacancies. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were slightly more than 6,500 vacancies; for \$7.01–\$10.00 there were almost 11,000 vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were slightly less than 4,100 vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were almost 3,800 vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were more than 7,000 vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 1 was just over half of that in the second quarter of 2006. Over a third (35 percent) of job vacancies in the state were located in RLMA 1.



Industry Group	Number of Vacancies	Industry Employment	Median Hourly Wage	Vacancy Rate, Percent		
				2007Q2	2006Q2	2005Q2
Professional & Business Services	7,585	70,152	\$13.00	10.8%	17.8%	4.5%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7,509	112,986	10.00	6.6	10.5	2.6
Financial Activities	4,829	26,797	13.00	18.0	14.6	3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	3,571	68,514	7.50	5.2	14.7	4.4
Other Services	3,001	13,609	14.00	22.1	46.0	6.0
Education & Health Services	2,629	99,905	10.48	2.6	7.0	2.7
Public Administration	1,658	26,151	10.74	6.3	2.4	8.7
Construction	1,451	33,683	18.00	4.3	13.6	3.0
Manufacturing	1,308	38,780	14.13	3.4	8.2	3.7
Natural Resources & Mining	151	8,819	18.50	1.7	5.7	2.4
Information	46	9,842	11.00	0.5	8.9	3.5
Unclassified	NA	1,409	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,738</b>	<b>510,647</b>	<b>\$9.61</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>3.7%</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

This public document is published at a total cost of \$25,98. 250 copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$25,98. The total cost of all printing of this document including reprints is \$25,98. This document was published by Louisiana Department of Labor, P.O. Box 94094, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9094. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. 1-800-259-5154 (TDD)

# New Orleans Regional (RLMA 1)

## 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	1,786	9,200	100%	66.3%	180	\$25.20	19.4%	16.4%	4.0%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	163	6,210	52.7	85.9	45	14.91	2.6	1.7	2.7
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	1,779	13,530	47.5	12.1	25	8.25	13.1	16.9	4.1
Business & Financial Operations	1,312	18,550	70.3	71.0	34	14.85	7.1	13.4	1.3
Community & Social Services	419	5,510	100	99.5	5	13.47	7.6	4.6	1.6
Computer & Mathematical Science	527	6,630	88.0	99.0	90	29.13	7.9	12.4	1.2
Construction & Extraction	983	29,610	59.9	19.7	49	14.00	3.3	19.7	6.1
Education, Training & Library	294	19,540	91.2	91.2	30	12.50	1.5	2.5	2.4
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	38	450	13.2	0.0	82	8.21	8.4	21.5	0.0
Food Preparation & Serving Related	5,215	38,840	36.9	2.8	14	7.50	13.4	11.4	3.6
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	650	25,720	61.4	88.3	14	17.79	2.5	10.2	3.6
Healthcare Support	781	11,200	6.9	14.5	30	7.93	7.0	10.5	3.3
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	3,220	23,000	82.0	44.7	45	14.00	14.0	19.4	7.0
Legal	581	4,900	85.1	56.2	26	16.73	11.8	1.2	0.2
Life, Physical & Social Science	343	4,100	100	81.6	124	13.00	8.4	5.6	7.7
Management	587	24,810	96.6	77.6	30	24.04	2.4	1.2	2.6
Military	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Classifiable Occupations	483	NA	97.5	44.8	21	10.00	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	4,973	83,360	80.8	10.9	25	10.05	6.0	6.7	2.1
Personal Care & Service	1,787	10,680	38.3	29.8	60	7.25	16.7	19.8	6.3
Production	1,592	26,790	89.5	42.7	60	14.00	5.9	11.4	1.9
Protective Service	1,003	12,180	54.8	7.9	90	10.57	8.2	2.9	13.5
Sales & Related	2,842	48,410	54.1	9.3	21	8.00	5.9	8.4	3.4
Transportation & Material Moving	2,382	38,430	82.5	34.1	26	12.00	6.2	8.7	4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,738</b>	<b>461,650</b>	<b>67.1%</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>\$9.61</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>

NA: Not Available

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Waiters & Waitresses	2,662
Tellers	1,542
Cashiers	1,165
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	945
Counter Attendants	828
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	788
Retail Salespersons	788
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists	684
Janitors & Cleaners	677
Loan Officers	649

