

# Shreveport Regional (RLMA 7) 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 applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	28	16.4%
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.	24	14.0
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	23	13.5
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	19	11.1
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	17	9.9
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.)	12	7.0
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	12	7.0
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	11	6.4
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	7	4.1
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	7	4.1
Applicants availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	6	3.5
Some other difficulty mentioned.	5	2.9
<b>Total Responding to the Open-ended Question</b>	<b>171</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 7 (RLMA 7) is made up of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Webster parishes.

There were 7,000 job vacancies in RLMA 7 during the 2nd quarter 2007 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.1 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, about 3 jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies increased by almost 1,700 from the 2nd quarter of 2006, a 31 percent increase.

Among the occupational groups, Community and Social Services along with Building, Grounds Cleaning, and Maintenance had the highest vacancy rate (6.2 percent), and Office and Administrative Support had the highest number of vacancies (1,235). Among the industry groups, Other Services had the highest vacancy rate (12.4 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities had the highest

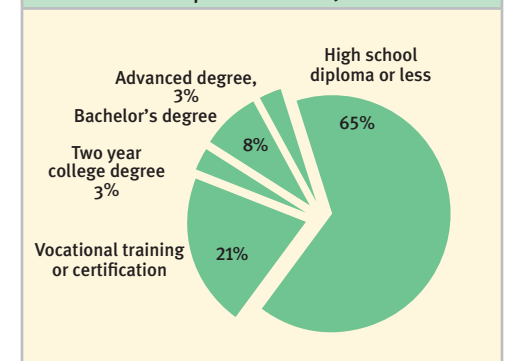
number of vacancies (1,561).

Overall, RLMA 7 employers were seeking employees with experience in 62 percent of the job vacancies. The number of job vacancies requiring a high school diploma or less was 65 percent of all vacancies. About 35 percent of the job vacancies required training past high school with 24 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree.

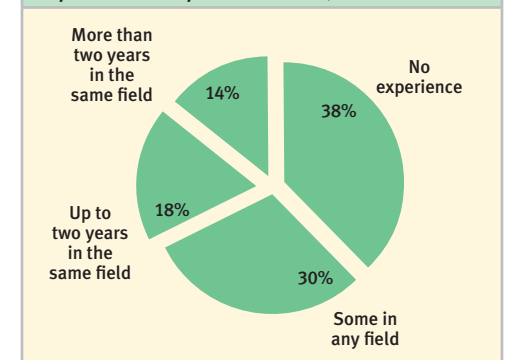
For jobs paying \$5.15 or less, there were slightly more than 350 vacancies. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were almost 2,400 vacancies; for \$7.01–\$10.00 there were slightly more than 1,600 vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were 900 vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were more than 600 vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were more than 1,100 vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 7 for 2007 was approximately 1.3 times the number of vacancies in 2006. Job vacancies in RLMA 7 accounted for only 7 ½ percent of all vacancies in the state.

## Educational Requirements of Job Vacancies



## Experience Requirements of Job Vacancies



Industry Group	Number of Vacancies	Industry Employment <sup>1</sup>	Median Hourly Wage	Vacancy Rate, Percent		
				2007Q2	2006Q2	2005Q2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,561	47,875	\$9.00	3.3%	2.6%	2.4%
Education & Health Services	1,547	65,716	11.72	2.4	1.4	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	1,188	29,419	5.75	4.0	1.2	2.6
Other Services	714	5,782	9.27	12.4	3.6	4.6
Financial Activities	578	9,872	10.00	5.9	4.2	1.7
Professional & Business Services	503	20,901	9.00	2.4	4.7	4.0
Manufacturing	354	23,037	12.30	1.5	1.1	1.1
Construction	293	12,914	10.50	2.3	5.9	3.4
Natural Resources & Mining	136	6,634	12.00	2.1	0.3	1.3
Information	110	3,716	7.20	3.0	2.7	1.8
Public Administration	91	10,560	15.67	0.9	1.2	1.3
Unclassified	NA	183	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,076</b>	<b>236,609</b>	<b>\$8.50</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>2.2%</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

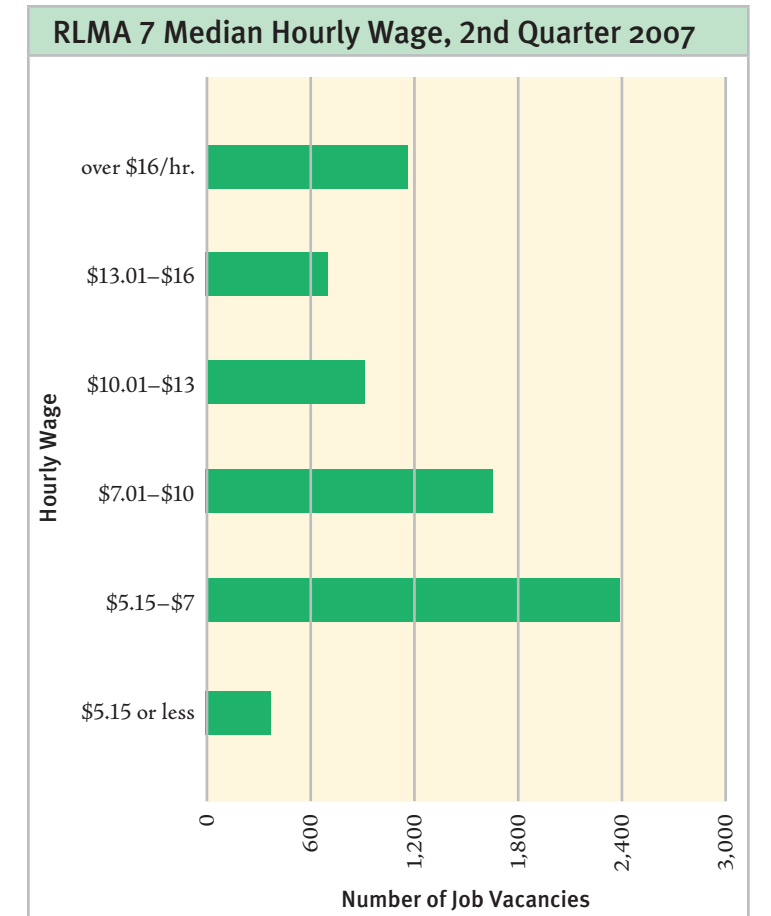
# Shreveport Regional (RLMA 7)

## 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	95	2,080	100%	100%	14	\$30.34	4.6%	0.1%	4.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	4	1,820	100	100	18	11.54	0.2	0.1	2.5
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	534	8,610	39.9	0.2	7	8.05	6.2	9.5	1.0
Business & Financial Operations	74	5,370	100	98.7	21	13.35	1.4	3.1	0.1
Community & Social Services	183	2,930	100	100	210	13.00	6.2	1.4	1.5
Computer & Mathematical Science	0	1,360	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0	7.6	0.0
Construction & Extraction	227	12,640	15.2	0.0	6	10.50	1.8	4.6	2.7
Education, Training & Library	188	16,500	72.1	46.5	14	16.83	1.1	0.6	0.7
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	3	1,120	100	0.0	14	7.50	0.2	0.1	0.1
Food Preparation & Serving Related	469	20,430	58.2	0.0	9	5.20	2.3	1.3	4.0
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	421	15,080	24.0	97.1	30	17.00	2.8	4.5	1.2
Healthcare Support	426	7,040	0.5	17.2	30	7.20	6.0	1.3	1.2
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	153	11,970	89.5	57.8	14	14.00	1.3	4.5	5.9
Legal	0	1,080	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.0	2.5
Life, Physical & Social Science	1	900	100	100	14	9.27	0.1	0.6	0.2
Management	109	11,020	68.9	54.8	14	24.42	1.0	0.5	1.7
Military	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Classifiable Occupations	78	NA	68.6	2.5	7	5.83	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	1,235	38,010	62.1	39.9	21	9.75	3.2	2.0	2.7
Personal Care & Service	105	7,150	100	0.0	14	5.93	1.5	2.0	4.8
Production	789	16,930	94.8	19.7	21	11.37	4.7	0.8	1.2
Protective Service	88	6,630	0.0	0.0	90	14.58	1.3	0.7	0.5
Sales & Related	1,040	24,290	40.3	13.1	21	7.00	4.3	2.2	1.6
Transportation & Material Moving	854	18,540	94.8	55.5	14	10.00	4.6	2.2	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,076</b>	<b>231,500</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$8.50</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	543
Retail Salespersons	480
Machinists	447
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	420
Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	377
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	303
Cashiers	277
Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	222
Construction Equipment Operators	192
Child, Family, & School Social Workers	178



NA: Not Available