

Louisiana 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.	359	21.3%
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	220	13.1
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	168	10.0
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.	166	9.9
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	151	9.0
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.)	144	8.6
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	107	6.4
Applicants availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	103	6.1
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	90	5.3
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	77	4.6
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	61	3.6
Some other difficulty mentioned.	38	2.3
Total Responding to the Open-ended Question	1,684	100%

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.

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.

There were approximately 95,000 job vacancies in Louisiana during the 2nd quarter 2007 resulting in a vacancy rate of 5.4 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately 5 jobs were vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 30,000 over 2nd quarter 2006, a 24 percent decrease.

The largest number of job vacancies was found in Office and Administrative Support (approximately 12,300) while the largest vacancy rate (11.1 percent) was found in Architecture and Engineering. When looking at the results by Industry Group, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 22,500). The highest vacancy rate of 12.3 percent was found in the Other Services group, down from a vacancy rate of 22.6% in 2006. Other Services consist of repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services,

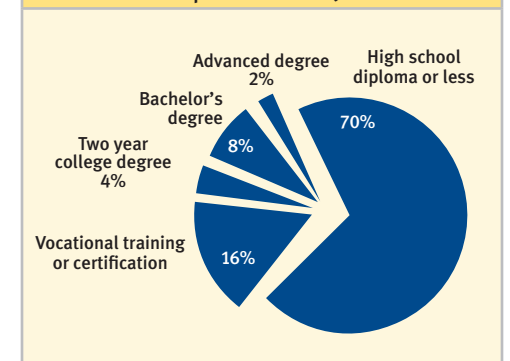
membership associations and organizations, and private households.

Overall, Louisiana employers were seeking employees with experience in 61 percent of the job vacancies. Less than 30 percent of the job vacancies required more than a high school education with 20 percent requiring vocational training, certificate, or two year college degree.

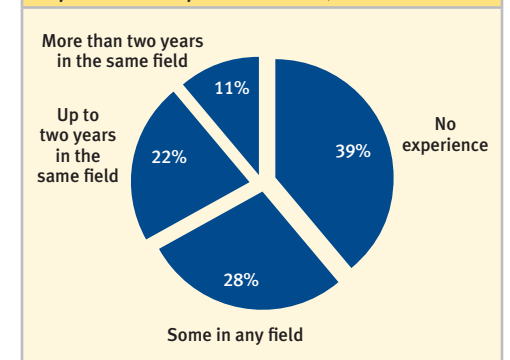
For jobs paying \$5.15 or less, there were more than 4,500 vacancies. However, for jobs paying \$5.15–\$7.00 there were almost 30,000 vacancies; \$7.01–\$10.00 there were slightly more than 25,000 vacancies; for \$10.01–\$13.00 there were slightly over 11,500 job vacancies; for \$13.01–\$16.00 there were more than 8,000 job vacancies; and for job vacancies over \$16.00 per hour there were more than 16,000 vacancies.

The number of job vacancies for 2007 was approximately three fourths of the number of vacancies in 2006. Over a third (35 percent) of the job vacancies were found in Regional Labor Market Area (RLMA 1), down from 48 percent in 2006.

Educational Requirements of Job Vacancies



Experience Requirements of Job Vacancies



Industry Group	Number of Job Vacancies	Industry Employment ¹	Median Hourly Wage	Vacancy Rate, Percent		
				2007Q2	2006Q2	2005Q2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	22,582	393,821	\$9.00	5.7%	6.4%	2.5%
Professional & Business Services	17,899	205,735	12.00	8.7	10.2	3.4
Education & Health Services	12,010	428,622	10.00	2.8	4.2	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	11,661	206,230	6.75	5.7	8.5	4.2
Financial Activities	7,887	94,154	11.50	8.4	6.3	3.4
Other Services	6,026	49,069	9.75	12.3	22.6	6.9
Manufacturing	5,070	157,941	12.30	3.2	5.0	2.2
Construction	4,807	143,188	14.00	3.4	9.1	3.0
Public Administration	4,691	99,785	11.85	4.7	2.3	3.9
Natural Resources & Mining	1,504	58,843	17.00	2.6	3.7	3.5
Information	1,258	31,866	10.63	3.9	3.7	1.7
Unclassified	NA	3,561	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	95,397	1,872,815	\$9.00	5.1%	6.9%	2.9%

¹ 2007 Q2

Unclassified for Employment: Industry NAICS could not be determined
Unclassified for Job Vacancy: Occupational Code could not be determined
NA: Not Available



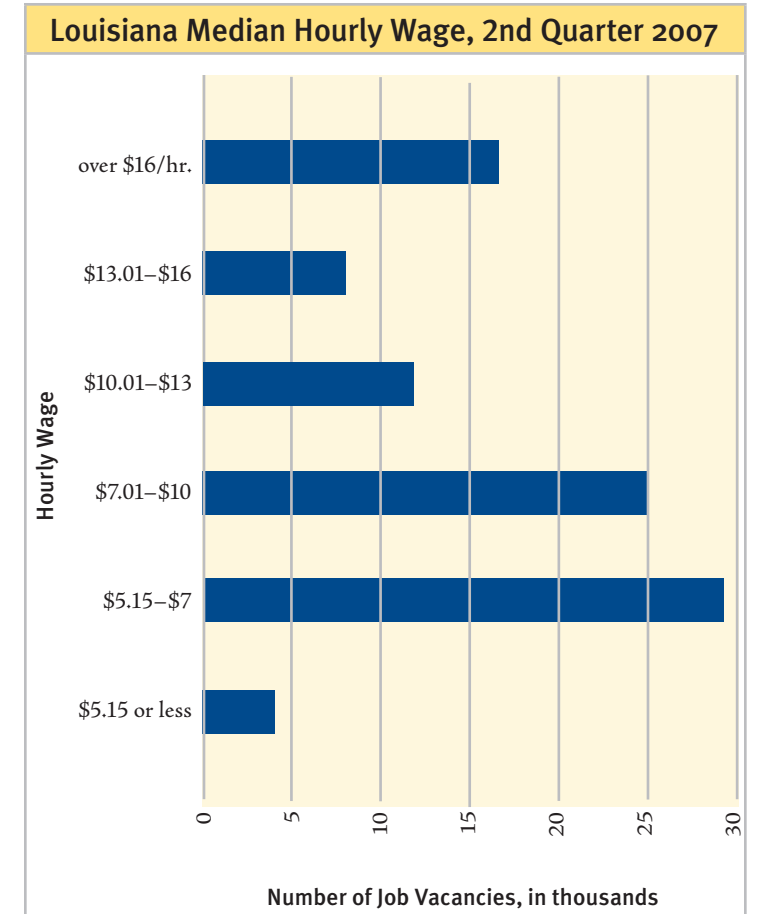
Louisiana Job Vacancy Survey

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	3,140	28,280	86.9%	66.0%	60	\$21.73	11.1%	7.6%	3.2%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	592	16,660	65.2	53.0	30	12.27	3.6	4.0	1.6
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	4,877	54,890	53.9	4.4	25	7.50	8.9	11.1	3.0
Business & Financial Operations	2,379	56,890	79.6	77.8	30	16.83	4.2	7.8	2.8
Community & Social Services	1,159	22,890	77.4	77.2	7	13.46	5.1	5.1	1.5
Computer & Mathematical Science	815	17,590	77.5	82.0	60	18.75	4.6	8.1	1.6
Construction & Extraction	5,610	118,900	66.7	24.0	28	12.44	4.7	13.1	4.5
Education, Training & Library	981	98,460	75.0	69.2	21	13.94	1.0	2.3	1.3
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	160	5,220	76.3	0.0	14	8.21	3.1	6.4	1.3
Food Preparation & Serving Related	12,019	144,650	41.0	4.5	21	6.50	8.3	8.3	4.0
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	5,734	104,420	43.5	63.4	30	16.50	5.5	6.6	2.9
Healthcare Support	3,750	49,440	31.1	29.8	30	7.32	7.6	5.7	2.9
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	6,729	92,120	81.1	48.0	60	12.87	7.3	12.0	5.3
Legal	677	12,530	76.1	62.3	49	18.40	5.4	1.6	0.6
Life, Physical & Social Science	512	12,470	93.1	81.4	44	15.87	4.1	3.3	3.1
Management	1,438	89,060	93.1	72.6	30	17.25	1.6	0.7	1.9
Military	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Classifiable Occupations	1,474	NA	68.8	39.2	14	8.25	NA	NA	NA
Office & Administrative Support	12,299	296,390	66.9	21.9	28	9.50	4.1	4.0	2.0
Personal Care & Service	4,059	43,720	45.0	24.2	14	7.00	9.3	13.6	4.6
Production	6,033	121,040	74.4	26.3	30	12.00	5.0	7.6	2.0
Protective Service	3,910	49,790	33.4	5.1	49	10.20	7.9	3.0	4.6
Sales & Related	9,165	188,670	49.4	13.2	21	7.08	4.9	5.4	2.6
Transportation & Material Moving	7,886	152,880	73.6	23.8	30	10.40	5.2	7.1	4.0
Total	95,397	1,776,960	61.3%	30.0%	30	\$9.00	5.4%	6.7%	3.0%

Top 10 Job Openings	
Title	Vacancies
Retail Salespersons	3,538
Waiters & Waitresses	3,385
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	3,249
Cashiers	3,088
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	2,726
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, including fast food	2,623
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	2,278
Tellers	2,263
Security Guards	2,188
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,936



NA: Not Available