

INTRODUCTION

As part of its Labor Market Information Program, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, Office of Occupational Information Services issues quarterly and annual releases of employment and total wages paid by employers subject to the Louisiana Employment Security Law. The releases are based on the quarterly tax reports received from these employers.

Beginning with first quarter 2007, data are based on the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The conversion from the NAICS 2002 to the NAICS 2007 was limited in scope and affected approximately 2,000 reporting units in Louisiana. The conversion was accomplished through our Industry Verification Survey mailed to employers, which began in October 2006. Employers who responded to the survey enabled our office to successfully implement this conversion in classification systems. For information on specific industry changes please refer to the Web site <http://www.census.gov/naics/2007/n02-n07.xls>.

The employment and wage data are used in many ways. Employers seeking new plant sites want a ready measure of employment and wages for use in comparing potential locations. Market researchers use the data for market and consumer analyses. Both governmental and private organizations make extensive use of the data in the planning, administration, and evaluation of manpower programs and policies.

In order to provide accurate information, the data provided in these files goes through an extensive review and verification process by this office, as well as our regional and national offices. This process begins approximately six weeks after the due date of the quarterly unemployment insurance tax report. We regret that this information is not timelier.

The information represents the most recent and comprehensive data that are available from any source for each parish in the state. There is, however, a limitation to the data. Complete information by parish is not possible at this time due to our inability to get an establishment level breakout for all "multiple worksite" employers.

Multiple worksite employers are those who have employees in two or more establishments, with total employment of 10 or more in the secondary locations, and report their state total of employment and wages. Thanks to the cooperation of many multiple worksite employers who have furnished this agency with establishment breakouts, unallocated employment and wages have been greatly reduced in recent years. For example, during the first quarter of 2007 processing, an additional 117 employers began furnishing establishment level breakouts for their business. These 117 employers represent 452 new reporting units.

Units or total units, referred to in the tables of this publication, represent the number of establishments in the industry and/or parish. Monthly employment figures represent workers on the payroll that includes the 12th of the month. Quarterly employment figures are averages of the three monthly figures in the quarter.

Due to the conversion to the **North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)**, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001. For more information about NAICS, please refer to the information on our Web site at www.laworks.net/Downloads/LMI/NAICSOverview.pdf.

The data published in these quarterly reports are subject to revision, which will be reflected in the annual report for each year.