



# Louisiana Workforce Information Review 2010

Houma (Bayou) RLMA 3  
October 2010

# Louisiana Workforce Information Review 2010

## Houma (Bayou) Report Regional Labor Market Area 3



Bobby Jindal  
Governor

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### **Our vision**

The Louisiana Workforce Commission will be an indispensable provider of workforce solutions.

### **Our mission**

The Louisiana Workforce Commission will lead the development of the system that delivers the workforce needed by Louisiana's current and future employers.

The Louisiana Workforce Commission, Office of Occupational Information Services, Research and Statistics Division, P.O. Box 94094, Baton Rouge LA 70804-9094 published this document in accordance with the authority of Part 602.6, Title 20, and Chapter V. of the Code of Federal Regulations. It was printed in accordance of the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R. S. 43:31. Its purpose is to disseminate information pertaining to labor market developments and employment trends. An initial printing cost approximately \$1.00 per copy.



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**Bobby Jindal**, Governor  
**Curt Eysink**, Executive Director

**Office of Occupational Information Services**

Dear Labor Market Data User:

The *Houma Regional Labor Market Area (RLMA) 3 Workforce Information Review 2010* is intended to serve as a tool in providing strategic economic demographic information for Louisiana and its regions. Data contained in this publication are also relevant in evaluating changes to the State's economy during the period 2008-2009 and will assist local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in making informed decisions regarding the economies of their areas.

The latest available annual averages for 2008 and 2009 were used in analyzing unemployment compensation claims, civilian labor force, occupational wages, job vacancies, and employment by industry. Regional data also include the revised forecast for the industry and occupational projections to 2018 to denote the jobs required for the future.

The current publication is in a portable document format (PDF) file and can be downloaded from the Louisiana Workforce Commission's Web site at [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net) by selecting Labor Market Information, Workforce Information Review Archives, 2010, and then RLMA 3 – Houma (Bayou).

Please address any questions to the Labor Market Information Unit at 225.342.3141.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Eysink".

Curt Eysink  
Executive Director  
Louisiana Workforce Commission

## Executive Summary

In July 2008, Governor Bobby Jindal signed a comprehensive workforce development reform bill which transformed the Louisiana Department of Labor into the Louisiana Workforce Commission to reflect the agency's expanded mission of leading the development of a comprehensive workforce system for the state. The legislation provided the framework for the agency to better deliver workforce solutions for employers and job seekers and included the following measures:

- Integrating workforce development and social support programs across agencies to provide one-door service for businesses and job seekers
- Strengthening the role of community and technical colleges in workforce development
- Quickly improving the agency's ability to address workforce shortages in high-demand occupations
- Improving the agency's capacity to respond to new business and expansion opportunities
- Creating a demand-driven system that ties workforce development to business and industry needs
- Refining the occupational projections process to allow for more input from business and industry

As part of the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Workforce Information Grant for Program Year 2009, states are required to prepare an Annual Report to the Governor. This report examines the Louisiana economy during the period 2008 through 2009 and provides a comprehensive analysis of Louisiana's workforce including civilian labor force statistics, mass layoff statistics, unemployment insurance activity, annual census of employment and wages, nonfarm employment, and occupational wages. Statistical programs conducted cooperatively between the agency's Research & Statistics Division and the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) played an integral part in developing the information provided in this report. Furthermore, this report looks at labor demand via job vacancy surveys, and Louisiana's long-term occupational needs based upon ten-year occupational projections.

Given the mission of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the emphasis of the 2010 Louisiana Workforce Review is on labor supply and demand. Included in this year's publication are sections designed to assist workforce professionals identify high growth industries and occupations. Other sections look at the demographics of the existing workforce and the potential labor pool available to fill high demand job vacancies. Like last year, a section entitled "Workforce Profile" was again added, which explains to the reader or user exactly how the information can be used to promote workforce development.

Some of the sections of the publication were developed based upon input received via a survey of Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBS). After a great deal of deliberation incorporating input from all stakeholders, the following areas were deemed to be of critical importance to the workforce development community:

- **Population Demographics**, a snapshot of Louisiana's population by parish
- **High School Dropouts**, data on the number of dropouts by Regional Labor Market Area (RLMA) by grade level
- **Resident Migration**, a statistical review of migration inflow and outflow using the address of record for federal income tax filers
- **Civilian Labor Force**, statistics on total employed, total unemployed and the unemployment rate by RLMA
- **UI Claimant Characteristics**, by age, gender and race of unemployment claimants
- **Nonfarm Employment**, one of the leading indicators of the state economy by industry within each Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
- **Occupational Wages**, a profile of employment, hourly wages, and annual wages for 22 major occupational groups and nearly 800 detailed occupations
- **Job Vacancy Statistics**, the best indicator of current job openings
- **Occupational Projections 2008 – 2018**, the best indicator of future job openings
- **Industry Employment Growth Compared to Job Vacancy Openings**, a look at expanding industries within a region versus job openings within that region

To view this document go to our Web site then select Labor Market Information (LMI), for Bureau of [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net)

This compendium of labor market information will prove useful to all stakeholders in the state workforce investment system.

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<b>Map of Louisiana's Parishes by Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA), and Regional Labor Market Areas (RLMA)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Population Demographics</b>	<b>2</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>These data provide important demographic information that shows the standard of living levels of Louisiana's population at the parish level. It can be used to better develop programs that will address the needs of different population groups. This information is useful in writing grants and operational plans.</p>	
<b>High School Dropouts</b>	<b>3</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>These data are valuable tools for addressing training needs for individuals who are no longer in school but may need services to find employment. Data can provide an estimate of the impact of these numbers on available programs and as a source for creating alternative programs to improve the employability of this age group.</p>	
<b>Resident Migration</b>	<b>4</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>This data is released by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) to calculate internal migration data. It allows users to see the inflow and outflow of residents by comparing tax returns matched by SSN from one year to the next. The graph will show how many tax returns were matched for 2008.</p>	
<b>Civilian Labor Force Statistics</b>	<b>5</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>The Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produces monthly and annual labor force, employment, and unemployment for the state and all parishes. This data can serve as key indicator of local economic conditions as individuals move in and out of the labor force. The estimates are used by federal programs in allocating state funding, by state and local governments for budgetary and planning of employment training services and by private entities, researchers, the media and others groups as a means to gauge labor market health and as an important analytical tool to predict and compare future labor activity.</p>	
<b>UI Claimant Characteristics</b>	<b>6</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>These data are good economic indicators of what skill sets are needed to match employer's job orders. These can also be used to develop potential training programs to fit the needs of the unemployed using the demographic information.</p>	
<b>Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>9</b>
<p>Why is this important?</p> <p>This monthly employer based survey provides the most up-to-date and stable time series for gauging economic health of an area. The impact of employment losses as well as growth can be studied at the detailed industry level. This time series can help planners focus on industries needing services to improve job growth.</p>	

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**Occupational Wage Profile** **10**

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Why is this important?

The wage survey provides estimates of employment, hourly wages, and annual wages for 22 major occupational groups and about 800 detailed occupations. Detailed occupational data can be used by job seekers or employers to assess wage variation for certain occupations. Local or regional data can be used to study the diversity of the area economy and available workforce. Other usage of these data include: development of occupational projections, vocational counseling and planning, industry skill and technology studies, and emerging and declining occupations.

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**Top 10 Job Vacancies by Occupational Group - Job Vacancy Profile** **11**

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Why is this important?

These data provide the best direct indicator of a labor shortage at that time in a particular occupation. Labor shortages indicate a mismatch between supply and demand. To increase supply, training dollars should be spent in the occupations with the largest shortages requiring training.

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**Occupational Projections 2008 - 2018** **12**

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Why is this important?

Projections serve as a tool in focusing on growing occupations at the state and regional level by supplying training for those occupations requiring the most workers. This data highlights the fastest growing occupations by three of the minimum educational requirement categories.

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**Workforce Demand and Supply** **13**

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Why is this important?

These data were derived to show the contrast between WIA training program completers and the project annual demand for the fastest growing occupations in each region. This is a useful tool in comparing projected need with trained workers.

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**Industry Employment Growth Compared to Job Vacancy Openings** **14**

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Why is this important?

These data provide workforce and economic development professionals knowledge of the growing industries in their region and where the greatest shortages of employees are. By investing training dollars in the occupations that are part of the staffing patterns in these industries, the supply of trained individuals can be increased resulting in even greater growth for those industries.

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**Glossary of Terms** **15**

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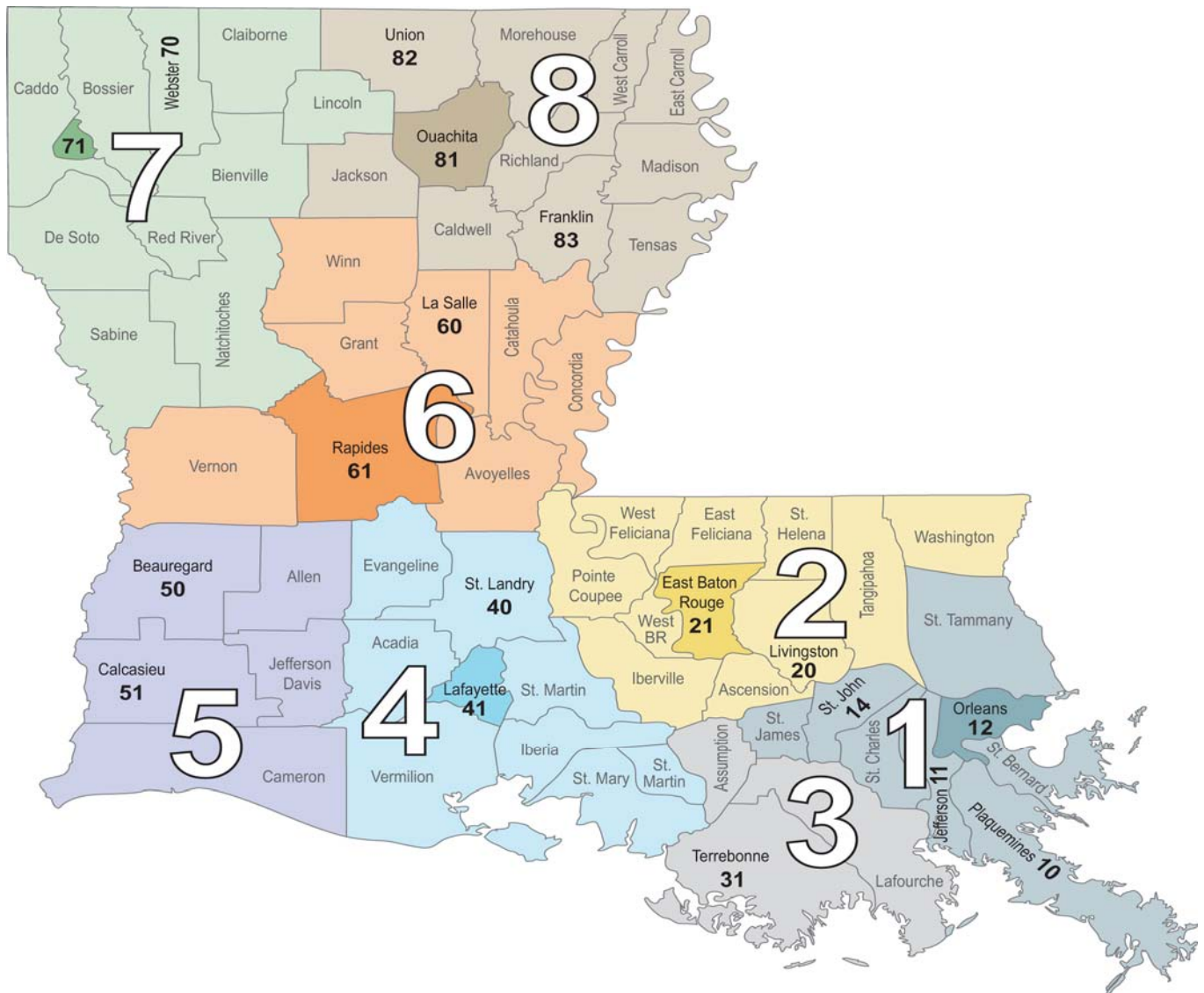
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**Customer Satisfaction Survey** **20**

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## Louisiana Workforce Investment Areas by Regions



### WIA Parishes by Region:

1. Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Tammany
2. Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana
3. Assumption, Lafourche, Terrebonne
4. Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion
5. Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis
6. Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, Winn
7. Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster
8. Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, West Carroll

	Population 2009 LA Tech	Population 2008 LA Tech	Per Capita Personal Income BEA*	Census 2006-2008 Median Household Income**	Census 2006-2008 Number of People All Ages in Poverty	Census 2006- 2008 Percent of People All Ages in Poverty	Census 2006- 2008 Under the Age of 18 in Poverty	Census 2006- 2008 Percent Under the Age of 18 in Poverty
Louisiana	4,492,076	4,410,796	\$35,507	\$42,634	815,997	18.5%	295,603	26.6%

### REGIONAL LABOR MARKET AREA 3

#### LWIA 31: LAFOURCHE PARISH CONSORTIUM

TERREBONNE PARISH	110,907	109,561	\$38,005	\$48,830	17,912	16.7%	7,064	24.6%
ASSUMPTION PARISH	22,835	23,058	\$33,936	\$43,275	4,727	20.5%	1,653	29.5%
LAFOURCHE PARISH	94,302	93,083	\$40,203	\$44,345	15,859	17.5%	5,883	26.1%

Sources: LA Tech University: <http://www.latech.edu>

Bureau of Economic Analysis: <http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm> \*(State data from 2009, Parish data from 2008)

U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 American Community Survey: <http://www.census.gov/acs>

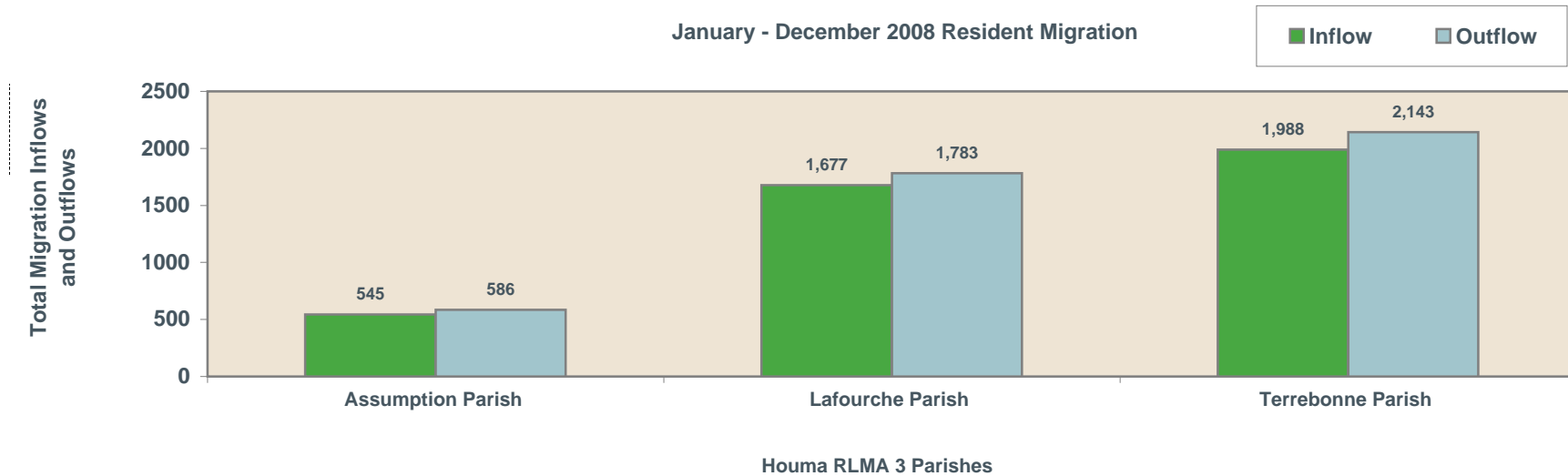
LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS in RLMA 3 by PARISH

Grades	2008-2009				2007-2008				2006-2007			
	7-12 #	7-12 %	9-12 #	9-12 %	7-12 #	7-12 %	9-12 #	9-12 %	7-12 #	7-12 %	9-12 #	9-12 %
<b>State Total</b>	<b>14,616</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>12,163</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>15,750</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>13,580</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>15,914</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>13,541</b>	<b>6.9</b>
<b>RLMA 3 Total</b>	<b>723</b>		<b>667</b>		<b>666</b>		<b>637</b>		<b>784</b>		<b>758</b>	
Assumption	97	5.1	86	6.8	107	5.5	105	8.3	103	5.2	102	7.7
Lafourche	265	3.9	247	5.6	241	3.5	232	5.1	247	3.5	244	5.2
Terrebonne	361	4.3	334	6.3	318	3.8	300	5.7	434	5.0	412	7.3

**Why is this important?**

Cumulative totals for the RLMA 3 for high school dropouts in public schools in grades 7 through 12 numbered 2,173 for the above three-year school terms. The number of dropouts in grades 9 through 12 are reported to the National Center for Education Statistics for use in the Common Core of Data collected from all states. This total was 667 for the latest referenced school year. This data is useful to WIBs in developing skill enhancement services and training program initiatives attractive to these age ranges.

Source: Louisiana Department of Education (June 28, 2010) Web site  
<http://www.laeducationresults.net/State/Dropout.aspx?RecordID=000>



**Source**

The Census Bureau annually obtains file extracts of income tax return data from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for use in its statistical programs. The Population Estimates and Projections Program uses the IRS data to annually calculate internal migration data for postcensal populations at the state, county, and county equivalent level. The IRS releases several of these data products, such as the state-to-state and county-to-county migration flows and aggregate income tally for counties. The data are also available on the IRS Statistics of Income Program website at: [SOI Tax Stats - Free Migration Data Downloads](#).

**Reference Period**

The tax returns are (mostly) filed during the spring following the end of the tax year. This means that the bulk of the 2007 tax returns are processed in the spring of 2008 and represent residence of filing. When we refer to the data in files we mean the tax year. When we refer to the migration year we mean the year in which the returns were filed. The match of tax years 2006 and 2007 produces 2007 to 2008 migration estimates.

**Matching Returns**

Tax returns are matched for two consecutive years. There are three categories of match status: (a) matched, (b) unmatched, Year-1 return only, and (c) unmatched, Year-2 return only. The match is based on the SSN of the primary filer and no match is attempted for the secondary filer. This means that if a couple files a joint return in Year-1 but file separate returns in Year-2, then the spouse's Year-2 return becomes a nonmatching return while the primary filer remains matched. A similar situation occurs when two returns are separate in Year-1 and then joined in Year-2.

**Migration Status**

Migration status must be determined when the Year-1 state and county geographic codes are compared to the Year-2 geographic codes. A non-mover is, by definition a non-migrant, however a mover is not necessarily a migrant. If a taxpayer moved but stayed within the same state and county then the mover is a "non-migrant." If these geographic codes differ the mover is a "migrant."

**Narrative Analysis**

**What can be determined by the data collected by the Internal Revenue Service?**

- RLMA 3 did not experience any significant gains or losses in residents.
- All parishes of RLMA 3 experienced net outflows of residents.

**What can be determined about workforce supply for RLMA 3?**

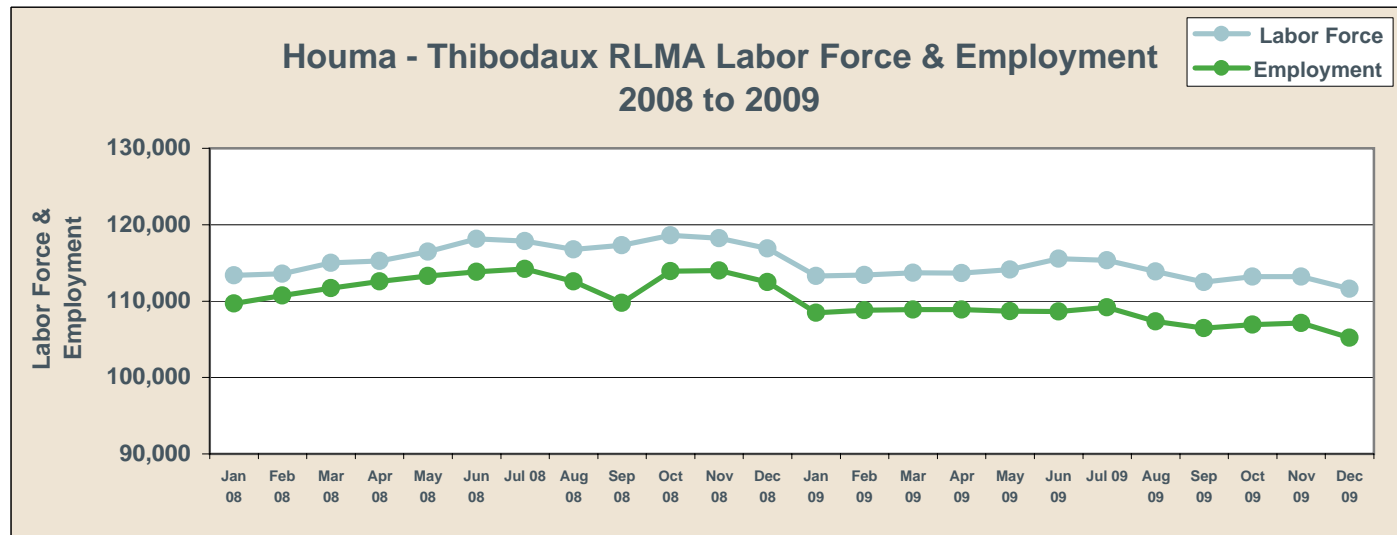
- Overall the workforce supply of RLMA 3 was relatively unchanged using resident migration as a means to measure.
- Current unemployment statistics characterize the Houma area as one the lowest in the nation, therefore supporting the relatively low loss of residents over the years.

Parishes	2008 Annual Average				2009 Annual Average			
	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate %	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate %
Assumption	10,572	10,013	559	5.3	10,615	9,768	847	8.0
<b>Lafourche</b>	<b>49,794</b>	<b>48,209</b>	<b>1,585</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>48,430</b>	<b>46,200</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Terrebonne</b>	<b>56,089</b>	<b>54,177</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>54,572</b>	<b>51,919</b>	<b>2,653</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>116,455</b>	<b>112,399</b>	<b>4,056</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>113,617</b>	<b>107,887</b>	<b>5,730</b>	<b>5.0</b>

-The Houma-Thibodaux Regional Labor Market Area reported the lowest annual unemployment rate for both 2008 and 2009 within all the RLMA's.

-Employment declined sharply in September of 2008. This was due in part to the effects of Hurricane Gustav that made landfall in the state during this time period.

-This area deviated from the state pattern, instead of increasing in labor force over the year Houma-Thibodaux's labor force declined over the year.



**Source:** The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data, by place of residence, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The civilian labor force includes all persons age 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed. [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_MainMenu.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_MainMenu.asp). Click on LOIS/Scorecard and use the menu to left under Historic Data Analysis and scroll over Employment and Wage Data - Labor Force Data then select Labor Force Employment and Unemployment (LAUS).

\*\*Parishes in bold are part of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMA computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

**Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimant Characteristics**  
Based on UI Continued Claims During the Week of the 19th of May 2008 and May 2009

Geography	Total	SEX			RACE					
		Male	Female	INA	White	Black	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Not Hispanic
Statewide 2008	18,661	9,607	9,054	0	8,373	10,035	112	104	20	17
Statewide 2009	55,051	32,019	23,032	0	25,953	28,092	476	409	90	31
RLMA 3 May 2008	573	279	294	0	315	238	3	16	1	0
RLMA 3 May 2009	1,744	1,115	629	0	1,030	641	5	64	4	0
Assumption	319	195	124	0	127	191	0	1	0	0
Lafourche	612	394	218	0	396	206	2	8	0	0
Terrebonne	813	526	287	0	507	244	3	55	4	0

Geography	AGE									ETHNICITY		
	Less than 22	22-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65 & over	INA	Hispanic or Latin	Not Hispanic or Latin	INA
Statewide 2008	455	1,161	5,024	4,538	4,568	1,489	904	522	0	366	18,262	33
Statewide 2009	1,623	3,838	15,395	12,542	12,899	4,357	2,750	1,647	0	1,657	53,304	90
RLMA 3 May 2008	6	23	127	149	158	60	28	22	0	9	564	0
RLMA 3 May 2009	55	133	445	365	473	120	99	54	0	48	1,695	1
Assumption	14	19	89	66	82	22	17	10	0	4	315	0
Lafourche	22	54	145	125	168	39	43	16	0	13	599	0
Terrebonne	19	60	211	174	223	59	39	28	0	31	781	1

\*All parish data are May 2009 UI continued claims.

**Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimant Characteristics**  
Based on UI Continued Claims During the Week of the 19th of May 2008 and May 2009

	INDUSTRIES											
	Agr/Forestry & Fishing/ Hunting	Mining	Utilities	Construction	Manufacturing	Wholesale Trade	Retail Trade	Transportation Warehouse	Information	Finance & Insurance	Real Estate Renting/ Leasing	Prof/ Science & Technical Services
Statewide 2008	204	249	51	3,104	1,871	499	1,595	631	251	447	255	909
Statewide 2009	541	1,939	126	8,218	5,951	1,582	3,885	2,096	625	1,002	796	2,871
RLMA 3 May 2008	4	20	0	107	54	21	40	23	4	9	11	27
RLMA 3 May 2009	14	138	0	300	160	32	86	109	10	16	41	65
Assumption	3	3	0	112	25	8	14	9	3	4	3	5
Lafourche	9	45	0	100	54	10	27	33	2	5	21	28
Terrebonne	2	90	0	88	81	14	45	67	5	7	17	32

	INDUSTRIES (continued)									
	Mgmt of Companies & Enterprises	Admin & Support Waste Mgmt/ Remediation	Educational Services	Health Care Social Assist.	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	Accommodation & Food Service	Other Services Except Public Admin.	Public Administration	INA	
Statewide 2008	67	1,296	258	1,516	318	1,104	732	268	3,036	
Statewide 2009	219	3,390	542	3,569	738	2,764	1,587	782	11,828	
RLMA 3 May 2008	4	25	6	38	7	46	30	3	94	
RLMA 3 May 2009	12	151	10	95	5	55	62	15	368	
Assumption	1	30	3	17	0	3	7	1	68	
Lafourche	5	53	4	39	2	23	21	3	128	
Terrebonne	6	68	3	39	3	29	34	11	172	

\*All parish data are May 2009 UI continued claims.

**Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimant Characteristics**  
Based on UI Continued Claims During the Week of the 19th of May 2008 and May 2009

	OCCUPATIONS											
	Management	Business & Financial Oper.	Computer/ Math	Architecture & Engineering	Life, Physical & Social Sciences	Community & Social Services	Legal	Educ./ Training & Library	Arts/ Design/ Entert. Sports & Media	Healthcare Practitioner/ Tech	Healthcare Support	Protective Services
Statewide 2008	1,100	495	164	102	30	140	137	263	171	246	831	384
Statewide 2009	2,937	1,350	497	945	92	489	314	725	582	635	2,003	960
RLMA 3 May 2008	39	19	1	3	1	1	2	10	2	6	18	10
RLMA 3 May 2009	80	31	18	26	1	14	4	12	9	13	48	22
Assumption	9	3	1	4	1	1	1	2	0	4	9	7
Lafourche	32	9	8	10	0	9	1	4	4	6	24	4
Terrebonne	39	19	9	12	0	4	2	6	5	3	15	11

	OCCUPATIONS (continued)											
	Food Prep. & Service Related	Build & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	Personal Care & Service	Sales & Related	Office & Admin. Support	Farm, Fishing, & Forestry	Construction & Extraction	Installation, Maintenance & Repair	Production	Transportation & Material Moving	Military Specific	INA
Statewide 2008	1,338	552	366	1,944	2,161	207	3,380	1,121	2,196	1,202	13	118
Statewide 2009	3,531	1,793	1,191	5,086	5,096	636	9,659	3,788	7,331	4,021	19	1,371
RLMA 3 May 2008	54	10	13	50	74	16	119	35	49	39	0	2
RLMA 3 May 2009	81	41	27	125	134	17	432	139	187	165	0	118
Assumption	8	10	4	9	17	6	127	25	19	22	0	30
Lafourche	31	15	14	43	33	6	161	48	61	63	0	26
Terrebonne	42	16	9	73	84	5	144	66	107	80	0	62

\*All parish data are May 2009 UI continued claims.



\*Parishes in the MSA: Lafourche and Terrebonne.  
 \*The post Hurricane Katrina expansion came to an end as the Houma MSA lost 3,600 nonfarm jobs from 2008 based on annual average. This reflects Houma's first annual average decline since 2004  
 \*Goods-producing employment lost 1,700 jobs comparing 2008 to 2009 as all three goods-producing components have lost employment.  
 \*Service-providing employment lost the gains it made in 2008, as the sector lost 2,000 jobs comparing the 2008 and 2009 annual averages. 2008 had seen a gain of 1,800 from the 2007 average.

**TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)**

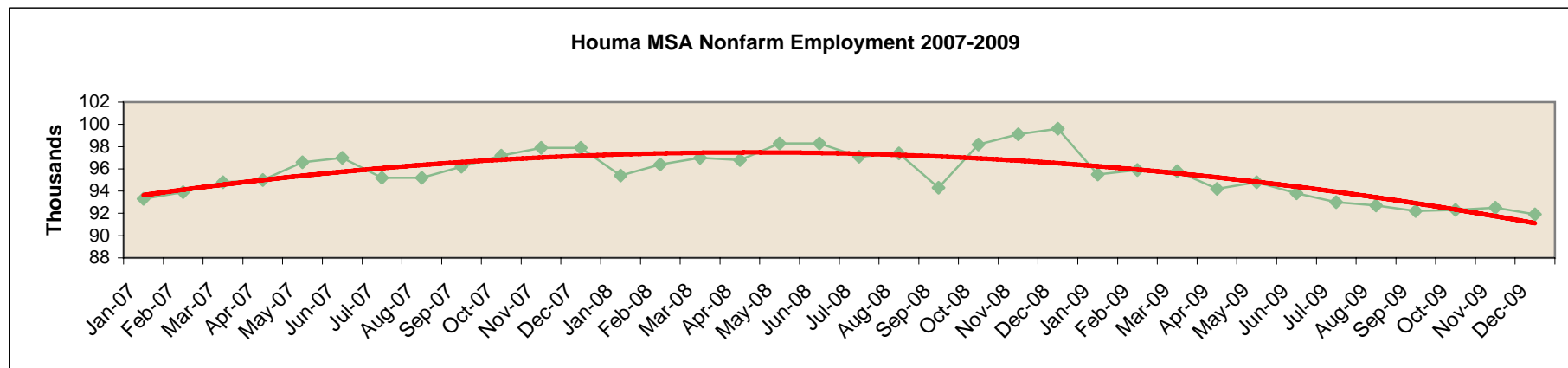
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
2007	93.3	93.9	94.8	95.0	96.6	97.0	95.2	95.2	96.2	97.2	97.9	97.9	95.9
2008	95.4	96.4	97.0	96.8	98.3	98.3	97.1	97.4	94.3	98.2	99.1	99.6	97.3
2009	95.5	95.9	95.8	94.2	94.8	93.8	93.0	92.7	92.2	92.3	92.5	91.9	93.7

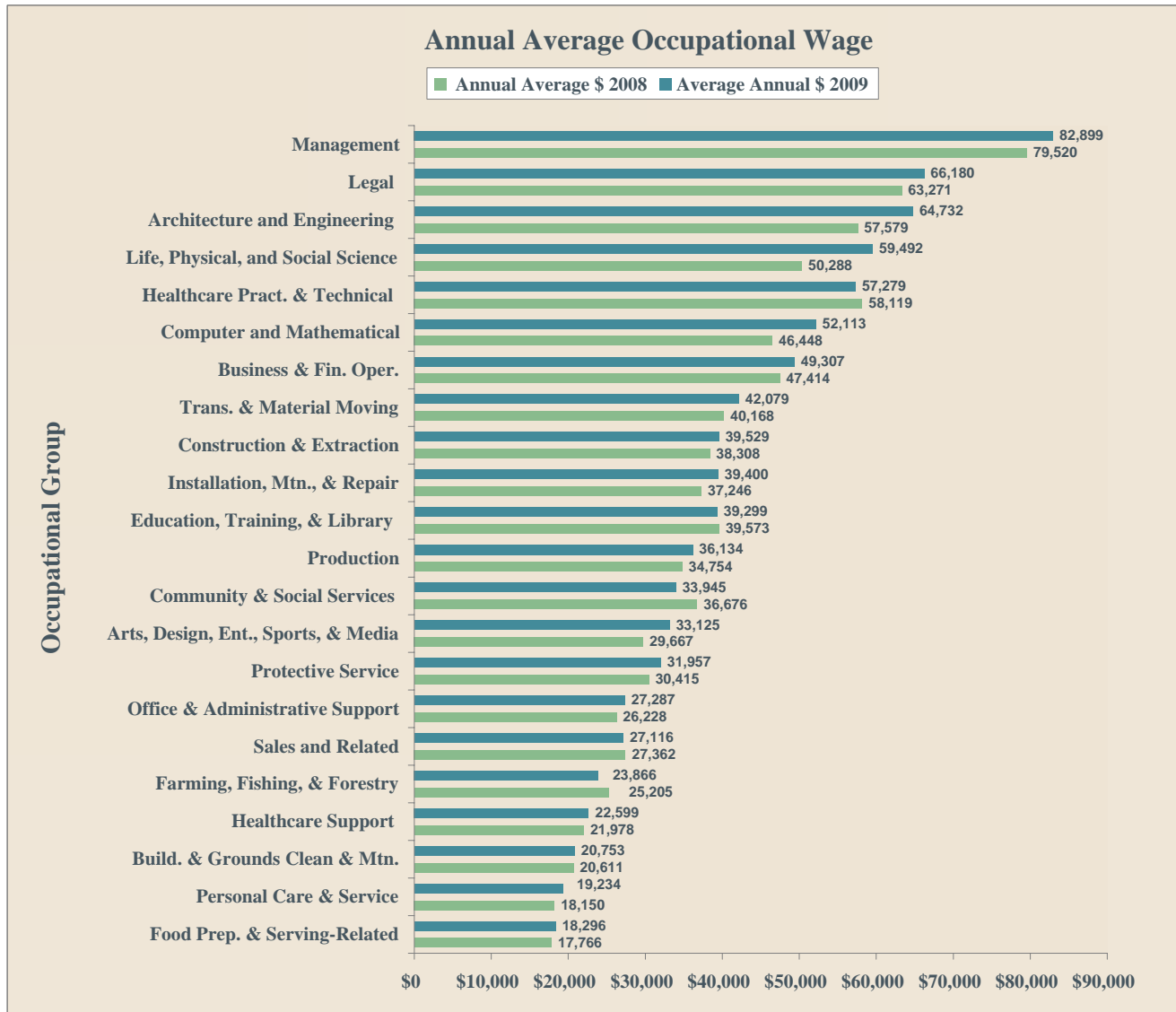
**GOODS-PRODUCING EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
2007	22.9	22.7	22.9	22.8	23.4	23.5	22.6	22.6	21.6	22.3	22.4	21.9	22.6
2008	21.9	22.1	22.1	22.0	22.7	22.9	22.6	22.6	21.5	22.6	22.7	22.7	22.4
2009	21.7	21.6	21.1	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7	20.6	20.3	20.3	20.1	19.7	20.7

**SERVICE-PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
2007	70.4	71.2	71.9	72.2	73.2	73.5	72.6	72.6	74.6	74.9	75.5	76.0	73.2
2008	73.5	74.3	74.9	74.8	75.6	75.4	74.5	74.8	72.8	75.6	76.4	76.9	75.0
2009	73.8	74.3	74.7	73.4	73.8	73.0	72.3	72.1	71.9	72.0	72.4	72.2	73.0





The Houma Regional Labor Market Area (RLMA) annual average wage for 2009 ranged from \$82,899 in Management to \$18,296 in the Food Preparation and Serving Related occupational group.

Increases were shown in 17 occupational groups with the largest in Life, Physical, and Social Science from \$50,288 in 2008 to \$59,492 in 2009. Five occupational groups showed decreases, Community & Social Services (\$2,731); Farming, Fishing, and Forestry (\$1,339); Healthcare Practitioners and Technical (\$840); Education, Training and Library (\$274); and Sales and Related (\$246).

Some of the top paying reported occupations by annual average wage for Houma were Anesthesiologists \$225,537; Physicians and Surgeons, All Other \$216,398; and Family and General Practitioners \$202,251.

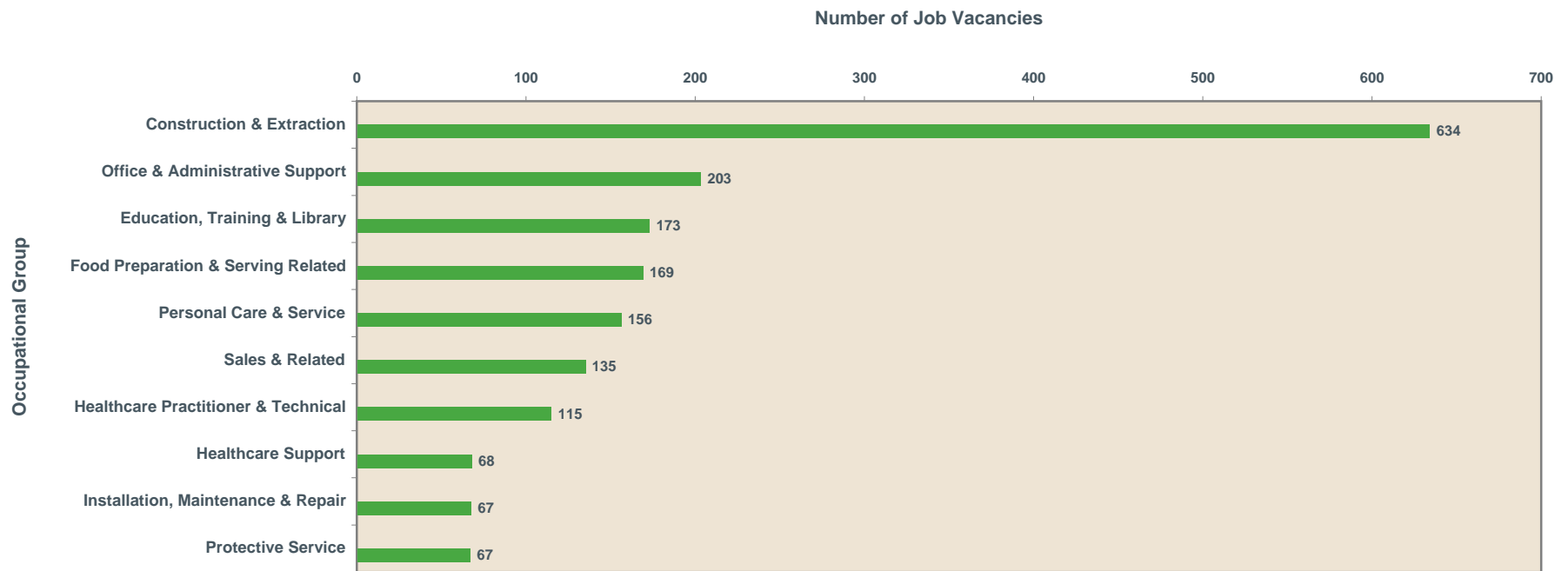
For more detailed information, please visit [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net) choose Labor Market Information, then scroll to Occupational Wage Data.

Source: The Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics (OES) program produces employment and wage estimates for over 800 occupations. The OES survey covers all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers in nonfarm industries, excluding self-employed persons. Data are collected for the payroll including the 12th day of May or November on an annual basis.

Houma RLMA 3 Top Five Job Vacancies by Job Title

Occupational Group	Job Title	Number of Vacancies 2009 Q2	In Demand	Education or Training Required from Demand File
Construction & Extraction	Construction laborers	301		Short-term on-the-job training
Production	Carpenters	225	X	Long-term training. & experience
Production	Structural iron and steel workers	100		Long-term training. & experience
Education, Training & Library	Elementary school teachers, except special education	93	X	Bachelor's degree
Office & Administrative Support	Receptionists and information clerks	70	X	Short-term on-the-job training

Top Number of Job Vacancy in Houma RLMA 3 by Occupational Group for 2nd Quarter 2009



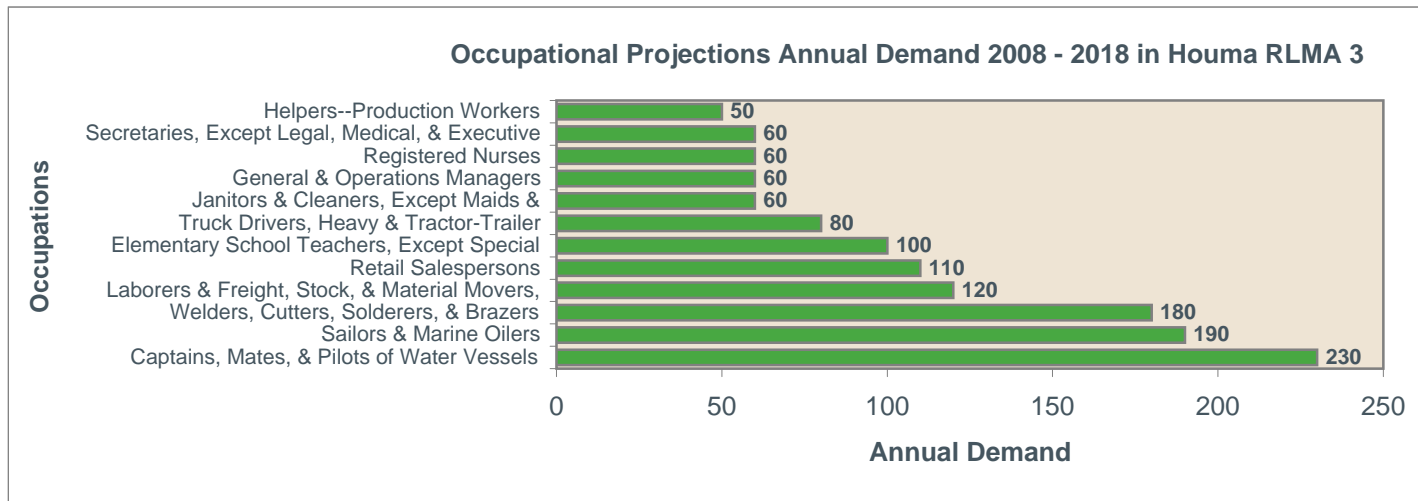
**Houma RLMA 3 Projections to 2018 of the High Demand Occupations by the Most Significant Source of Education or Training**

Associate's or Bachelor's Degree Growing Occupations <sub>1</sub>	Annual Openings <sub>2</sub>	Moderate Training Growing Occupations <sub>1</sub>	Annual Openings <sub>2</sub>	Vocational Technical & Long Term Training Growing Occupations <sub>1</sub>	Annual Openings <sub>2</sub>
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	100	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	80	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	180
Registered Nurses	60	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	60	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	50
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	40	Customer Service Representatives	50	Machinists	40
Accountants and Auditors	20	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	40	Ship Engineers	40
Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	20	Painters, Construction and Maintenance	30	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	30
Industrial Engineers	10	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	30	Cooks, Restaurant	30
Educational, Vocational, and School Counselors	10	Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	30	Carpenters	30
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	10	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	30	Electricians	30
Construction Managers	10	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	30	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	20
Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	10	Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	30	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	20
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	10	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance	20	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	20
Computer Support Specialists	10	Medical Assistants	10	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	20
Loan Officers	10	Social and Human Service Assistants	10	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	20
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	10	Crane and Tower Operators	10	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	20
		Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	10	Commercial Pilots	20

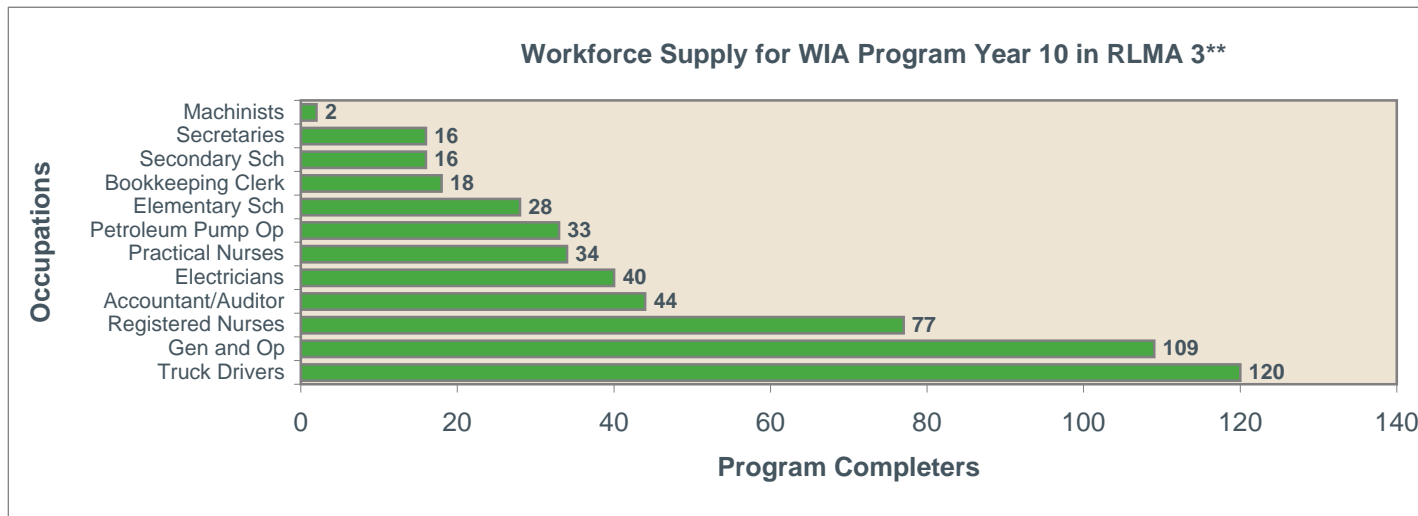
Sources: 1 - Labor Market Information 2008 - 2018 Occupation Projections [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

2 - Labor Market Information 2008 - 2018 Occupation Projections. Annual openings are new jobs plus replacements by occupation.

The occupational projection were produced by analyst in the Labor Market Information Unit of the Research and Statistics Division of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Refinement to the industry and occupational projections were provided by the LSU Division of Economic Development and Forecasting and Dr. Loren Scott. Guidelines and procedures are defined by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) program and the U.S. states hosted Web site Projections Central at [www.projectionscentral.com](http://www.projectionscentral.com). This ensures consistency in gathering and disseminating industry and occupational projections. Analysis uses industrial staffing patterns data to review historical trends and to project future employment growth or decline of an occupation within geographical areas.



\* The occupations in this graph pay an average of \$10.00 per hour or more. They are some of the top occupations projected to be in demand in RLMA 3 according to the 2008-2018 projections.

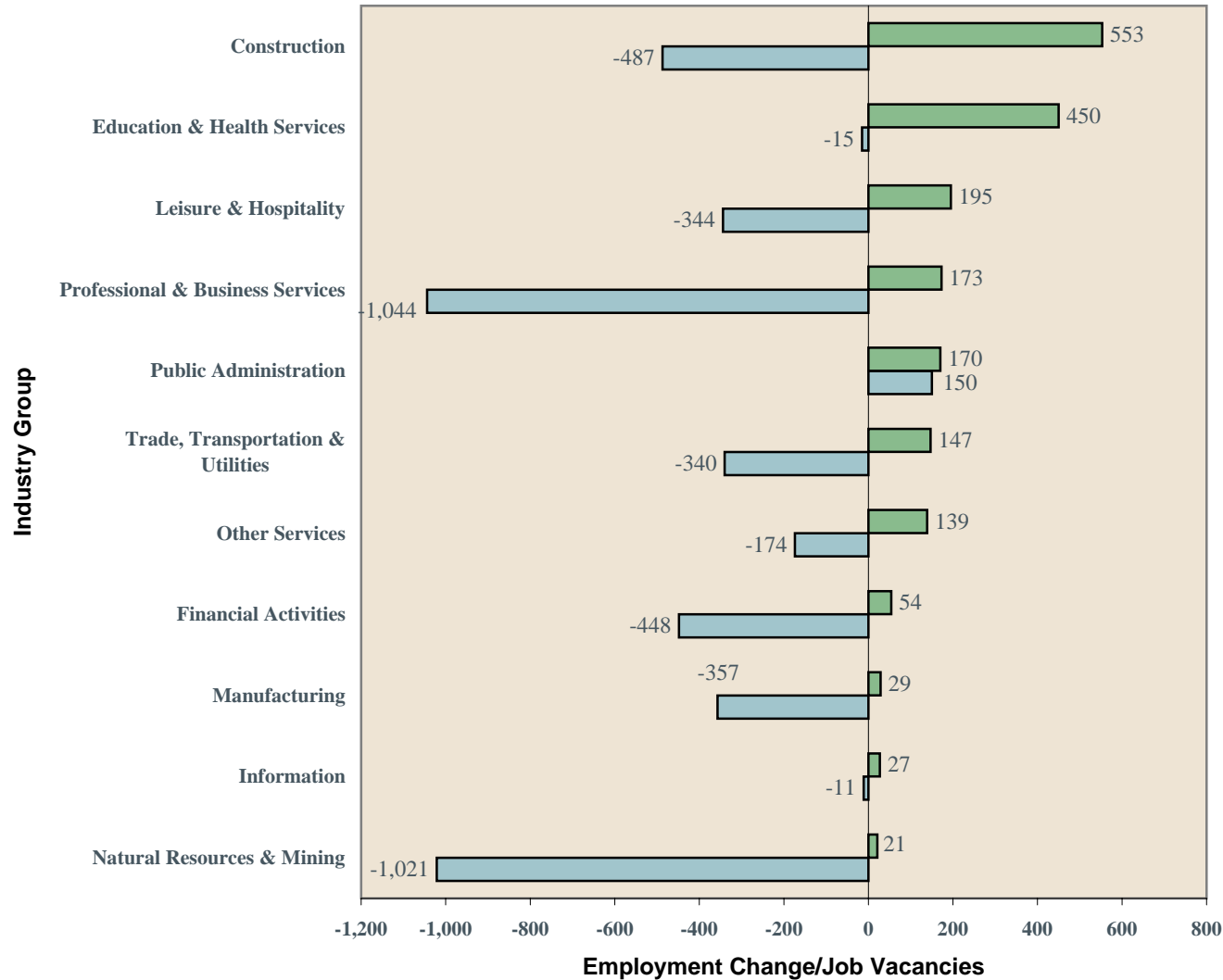


\*\* The figures in this graph represent job seekers who have received WIA funding and completed approved training programs during WIA Year 10 (June 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008), the most current program completer data available.

Note: Program completer information submitted by schools are totaled by occupation and may include figures for an associates degree, four year college degree, and a masters degree, as in registered nurses.

Figures only reflect totals from training programs that are WIA eligible. Not all schools/training providers submit data to be included in the WIA/Scorecard Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL).

**RLMA 3 Employment Change by Industry Group Using  
2nd Quarter 2008 to 2nd Quarter 2009 Covered Employment and  
Number of Job Vacancies 2nd Quarter 2009**



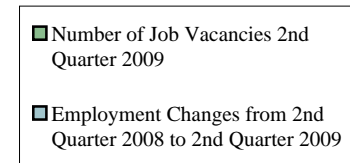
-Construction lost -487 jobs; while 553 vacancies existed in the industry during 2nd quarter 2009

-Mining lost over 1,000 workers and only had a few vacancies to fill

-Public Administration added 150 jobs and still had more available

-Filling the vacancies in Construction and Education & Health Services would have provided over 1,000 more employees in this region

- RLMA 3 is the Houma Region



Source: [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net)  
QCEW 2nd Quarter 2008 and 2009 Reports; Job Vacancy Report 2nd Quarter 2009

# Glossary of Workforce Information Terms

**Applicant** – One who files an application for services with a local office of a state agency, or with outstation staff, or with an outreach worker.

**Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Earnings/ Average Weekly Hours (CES/BLS - Program)** – Average total money earnings, in the survey week (i.e., the week that includes the twelfth of the month), of production workers plus nonsupervisory workers not in production, including overtime, paid vacation and sick leave.

**Base Period** – A 52-week period prior to the benefit year in which a claimant must have had a specified minimum amount of insured work in order to qualify for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Wages earned during this base period are used in determining a claimant's weekly and maximum UI benefit amounts.

**Benchmarks** – Comprehensive data that is used as a basis for developing and adjusting interim estimates made from sample information. Most economic time series are estimates based on a sample trend made of the data available at the time. The series are adjusted periodically as more data becomes available. This periodic adjustment is a "benchmark revision," and the point-in-time for which the more complete data was available is the "benchmark date." Data are commonly referenced by their benchmark date, e.g., "data based on a March 2009 benchmark."

**Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)** – This agency (within the United States Department of Labor) is the primary data-gathering entity of the federal government in the field of labor economics. BLS employees collect, process, analyze and disseminate data relating to employment, unemployment, the labor force, productivity, prices, family expenditures, wages, industrial relations and occupational safety and health at the national level.

**Census of Population** - A decennial count of the population taken at the end of March or beginning of April. It includes population and socio-economic statistics and other information for the Nation, the States, and sub-divisions of States. Many characteristics of the population are estimated from samples rather than through complete counts. Note: The Census counts workers where they live and as such, the economic characteristics of the population lend themselves to the "labor force" concept. This is in contrast to counts of employment developed from Employer reports, which represent a count of jobs on a place of work basis, and therefore, are aligned with the "work force" concept. To the degree that workers commute from one area to another and are multiple jobholders, labor force data from a census will disagree with work force information.

## Glossary of Workforce Information Terms – continued

**Continued Week Claimed (CC)** – Each week claimed for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits subsequent to the filing of the initial claim for a week of UI compensation.

**Current Employment Statistics (CES)** - Estimates of nonfarm employment and production workers hours and earnings by industry. They are produced as part of a nationwide program, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), for the state and each metropolitan statistical area (MSA) from a sample of employing establishments

**Civilian Labor Force** – That portion of the population, age sixteen or older, which is employed or actively seeking employment.

**Claimant (Unemployment Insurance)** – An individual who has been determined monetarily eligible for (UI) benefit payments under one or more of the Federal or State programs and whose benefit year or compensation, by reason of an extended duration period, has not ended and who has not exhausted his or her UI benefit rights.

**Covered Employment** - A count of employed persons whose employment data is derived from the quarterly tax reports submitted by all employers subject to the Louisiana Employment Security Law, and from supplemental reports providing establishment level data submitted by many multiple worksite employers.

**Covered Worker** – An individual who has earned wages in insured work.

**Consumer Price Index (CPI)** - Measures the average annual and monthly changes in prices via a fixed market basket of goods and services for the United States. It is also known as the Cost of Living index and is produced in two series, All Urban Consumers and Urban Wage and Clerical Workers.

**Current Population Survey (CPS)** – A monthly household survey of approximately 56,000 selected households in the U.S. conducted for BLS by the Census Bureau. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information on the employment status of each household member, age 16 and over, during the reference week.

**Current Duration of a Claim for Unemployment Benefits-** The number of uninterrupted weeks each claimant has claimed during his or her current spell of unemployment.



## Glossary of Workforce Information Terms – continued

**Durable Goods or Hard Goods** – Items with a normal life expectancy of three years or more. Automobiles, furniture, household appliances, and mobile homes are examples. Expenditures for durable goods are generally postponable because of their nature. Consequently, durable goods sales are the most volatile component of consumer expenditures.

**Employed** – The members of the labor force, age 16 and over, who worked for pay or profit, or had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other reasons not reflecting a shortage of work, or who worked fifteen hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family.

**Fiscal Year**- A twelve-month period between settlements of financial accounts. Starting in 1976, the U.S. Government fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.

**Initial Claim (IC)** – Any notice of unemployment filed (1) to request a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation, or (2) to begin a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year period or eligibility.

**Interstate Claim** – A claim filed in one state (agent state) against another state (liable state).

**Job Opening** – A listing of a single job opportunity, which a local office has on file as a request to select and refer an applicant or applicants.

**Labor Market Area** - Geographic area that consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance, which usually includes one or more entire counties (parishes). It is an economically integrated geographical unit within which workers may readily change jobs without changing their place of residence. A major labor market area denotes a geographical unit consisting of at least one central city with a population of 50,000 or more, coinciding in most instances with an SMSA as determined by the Office of Management and Budget.

**Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)** – A program that produces the civilian labor force estimates including the employed, unemployed and the unemployment rate for the state, MSAs, and the 64 parishes.

**Layoffs** – A layoff is a suspension from pay status (lasting or expected to last more than seven consecutive calendar days without pay) initiated by the employer without prejudice to the worker.

## Glossary of Workforce Information Terms – continued

**LMI - Labor Market Information** – Data on job seekers, employment, unemployment, changes in industrial structure, technological changes, and conditions of employment, wage rates and other related statistics.

**LOIS Louisiana Occupational Information System** – A comprehensive labor market information delivery system developed by LWC and Geographic Solutions, Inc., providing a single source of demographic, economic, and labor market information for the state, MSA's and parishes.

**Manufacturing** – An industrial category of establishments engaged in the mechanical or chemical transformation of materials or substances into new products.

**Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** – Is a geographic area comprised of a county/parish generally containing a central city (or twin cities) of 50,000 inhabitants or more, plus contiguous counties/parishes that are socially and economically integrated with the central city.

**NAICS - North American Industry Classification System** - NAICS is an industry classification system that groups establishments into industries based on the activities in which they are primarily engaged. It is a comprehensive system covering the entire field of economic activities, producing, and non-producing. The structure of NAICS is hierarchical; there are 2 domains, 11 super-sectors, 20 sectors, and 1,196 industries in NAICS. NAICS was developed by Mexico's INEGI, Statistics Canada, and the U.S. ECPC to provide common industry definitions for Canada, Mexico, and the United States that will facilitate economic analyses of the economies of the three North American countries. The statistical agencies in the three countries produce information on inputs and outputs, industrial performance, productivity, unit labor costs, and employment. NAICS, which is based on a production-oriented concept, ensures maximum usefulness of industrial statistics for these and similar purposes.

**New Claim** - The first claim filed to request a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation which results in an agency generated document of an appealable monetary determination provided to the potential claimant.

**Nonfarm Employment** – Employment by place of work that does not include the self employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, or agriculture workers. Conceptually this is probably the timeliest economic series available to compare different labor markets over an extended period of time.

**Nondurable Goods** – Items that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less). Food, beverages, apparel, and gasoline are common examples. Because of the nature of nondurable goods, they are generally purchased when needed.

## Glossary of Workforce Information Terms – continued

**Not Seasonally Adjusted (NSA)** – Data reflect normal patterns for any time series. These data are unadjusted and reflect seasonal variation such as consistently higher or lower unemployment that occurs each year. A not seasonally adjusted figure for a month or quarter can only be compared with that same period from another year.

**Renewal Applicant** - Status of an applicant that changes from inactive to active.

**Regional Labor Market Areas (RLMA)** - Created by executive order, as a realignment of the former state planning districts (SPD's). The RLMA areas include the metro areas and surrounding parishes/ RLMA 1- New Orleans, RLMA 2 – Baton Rouge, RLMA 3 – Houma, RLMA 4 – Lafayette, RLMA 5 – Lake Charles, RLMA 6 – Alexandria, RLMA 7 – Shreveport, and RLMA 8 – Monroe.

**Seasonally Adjusted (SA)** – Data that are adjusted to remove any factors reflecting a repetitive pattern from year to year. For example, employment in retail sales is consistently high around the holiday season, and a seasonally adjusted data series would not reflect this pattern. A seasonally adjusted number can be compared with any other seasonally adjusted number in a particular series, while an unadjusted number can only be compared with another unadjusted number from that exact time in another year.

**Total Employed** - When used in reference to labor force estimates, the sum of agricultural, nonfarm wage and salary, self-employed, unpaid family and domestic workers age 16 and over, adjusted to eliminate double counting of persons holding more than one job and to place of residence basis.

**Total Unemployed** – When used in reference to labor force estimates, the sum of persons age 16 and over, receiving unemployment insurance benefits, persons who have exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits and are still unemployed, persons who have delayed filing for benefits but were not working, unemployed persons who applied for benefits but were not qualified to receive them, workers separated from industries not covered by unemployment insurance, and unemployed persons newly entering or re-entering the labor force. These persons may not have done any work for pay and not worked more than 15 hours without pay in a family owned business.

**Unemployment Insurance (UI)** - a program providing benefits to insured and eligible persons who are out of work due to conditions beyond their control.

**Weeks Claimed** - The weeks covered by intrastate continued UI claims and interstate continued claims for which waiting period credit or payment of compensation is requested. A week for which excessive earnings are reported does not constitute a claim for a week for unemployment. (Earnings are considered excessive when they exceed the claimant's weekly benefit amount).

## Labor Market Information Customer Survey

1. Which type of user best describes you? (Please check)

- Youth (18 years old or less)
- Jobseeker
- Business
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Did this publication help you to find a job or a training program?

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion

3. For the following, please indicate the extent to which you agree by checking the appropriate box:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a) The data were easy to understand						
b) The data met my needs						

4. Overall, how would you rate the *Houma RLMA 3 Workforce Information Review 2010* publication?

(Check the appropriate box.)

Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor	No Opinion

5. Any suggestions for improvements or changes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE LMI CUSTOMER SURVEY.**  
**Fax to: 225-219-7759 or Mail to: Louisiana Workforce Commission, Research and Statistics Division/LMI Unit, P.O. Box 94094, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9094.**  
**Questions or comments toll free – 888.302.7662.**



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