



2011

Employers' Responses to the Open-ended Question: In general, what is the greatest difficulty you have faced in filling job positions?

Difficulty	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy. / Have not filled a vacancy recently.	65	35.9
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	41	22.7
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	22	12.2
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.	16	8.8
Some other difficulty mentioned.	9	5.0
Finding people who want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	9	5.0
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low-paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	4	2.2
Applicants' availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	4	2.2
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	4	2.2
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.)	3	1.7
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	3	1.7
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	1	0.6
Total	181	100%

Houma (Bayou) Job Vacancy Survey

Second Quarter 2011, RLMA 3

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. This information assists educational institutions, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs. Regional Labor Market Area 3 (RLMA 3) is made up of Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne parishes.

There were approximately 920 job vacancies in RLMA 3 during the second quarter of 2011 resulting in a vacancy rate of 1.0 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately one job was vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 410 since the second quarter of 2010, a 31 percent decrease.

When looking at the results by Industry Group, **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 270) while **Information** had the highest vacancy rate (7.4 percent). **Information** comprises establishments engaged in the production, distribution, and processing of data. The largest number of job vacancies by Occupational Group was found in **Transportation & Material**

Moving (approximately 230). **Farming, Fishing & Forestry** had the highest vacancy rate of all Occupational Groups (8.0 percent).

Overall, RLMA 3 employers were seeking employees with experience in 81 percent of the job vacancies. Approximately 29 percent of the job vacancies required more than a high school education with 20 percent requiring vocational training, certification, or a two-year college degree.

About 2 percent of all vacancies offered wages of \$6.55 or less. Approximately 8 percent of all job vacancies offered a starting wage of \$6.56 – \$7.55. Jobs paying \$7.56 – \$10.55 accounted for nearly 15 percent of vacancies. Additionally, 13 percent of vacancies were paying \$10.56 – \$13.00; 28 percent of vacancies were paying \$13.01 – \$18.00; and 35 percent of vacancies were paying over \$18.00 per hour. In addition, employers offered supplemented health insurance for 79 percent of all job vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 3 for 2011 was approximately one third below the number of vacancies in 2010. Job vacancies for RLMA 3 accounted for less than 5 percent of all vacancies in the state.

Industry Group	Number of Vacancies	Industry Employment ¹	Median Hourly Wage ² (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	273	25,359	19.03	1.1
Education & Health Services	161	19,110	20.52	0.8
Professional & Business Services	123	9,732	15.00	1.3
Natural Resources & Mining	107	6,265	16.09	1.7
Public Administration	80	3,262	12.69	2.5
Information	59	798	7.25	7.4
Construction	49	6,195	13.00	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	23	7,735	6.55	0.3
Other Services	21	2,217	20.00	0.9
Financial Activities	18	4,968	10.00	0.4
Manufacturing	10	9,799	21.48	0.1
Unclassified ²	NR	44	NR	NR
Total	923	95,484	\$15.00	1.0

1 2010 4th quarter QCEW
2 Industry NAICS could not be determined

3 Wage does not include tips
NR Not Reported

Industry Group vs. Occupational Group Explanation

An industry is a group of establishments categorized according to the goods or services they provide. For the purposes of this study, many of the industry sectors defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 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 the duties they perform. 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 **Health Care and Social Assistance** (part of the summary industry group of **Education 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

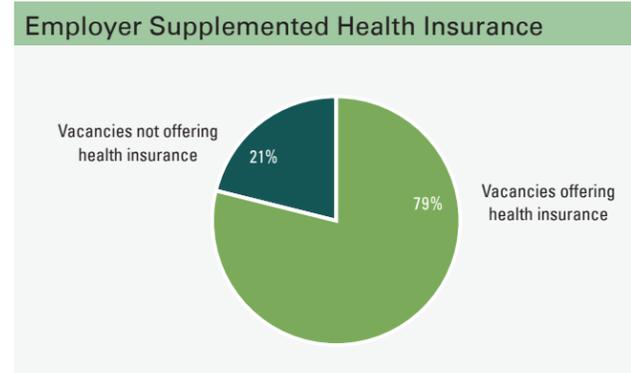
During the second quarter of 2011, a Job Vacancy Survey was conducted based on a probability proportional to size sample of Louisiana establishments covered by Louisiana unemployment insurance tax laws. The sample was stratified by RLMA and industry. The total sample size was 8,938 with an overall response rate of 41 percent. The Second Quarter 2011 Job Vacancy Survey reports for the state and eight RLMAs can be found on the Louisiana Workforce Commission's Web site: www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_JVS_20112.asp.

Houma (Bayou) Job Vacancy Survey, Second Quarter 2011

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation ¹	Percent Requiring at Least Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Length of Vacancy, Months	Median Hourly Wage ³ (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Transportation & Material Moving	234	14,690	81.0	11.0	1 – 3 months	22.50	1.6
Construction & Extraction	143	6,520	66.2	38.0	1 – 3 months	15.00	2.2
Production	101	8,670	100.0	37.4	< 1 month	15.00	1.2
Sales & Related	60	9,640	58.1	4.5	< 1 month	11.64	0.6
Non-Classifiable Occupations ²	54	NR	100.0	0.0	> 6 months	7.25	NR
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	51	4,310	82.9	100.0	< 1 month	21.21	1.2
Office & Administrative Support	47	14,120	84.0	27.4	1 – 3 months	10.00	0.3
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	42	6,740	96.1	0.0	3 – 6 months	20.00	0.6
Protective Service	32	1,690	100.0	0.0	< 1 month	12.69	1.9
Management	26	3,590	100.0	93.7	1 – 3 months	30.29	0.7
Architecture & Engineering	23	1,370	100.0	29.0	< 1 month	20.19	1.7
Food Preparation & Serving Related	23	6,850	27.8	0.0	< 1 month	6.55	0.3
Personal Care & Service	23	1,480	100.0	0.0	1 – 3 months	8.00	1.6
Community & Social Services	21	1,900	51.4	75.2	3 – 6 months	13.94	1.1
Business & Financial Operations	17	2,300	100.0	100.0	> 6 months	19.18	0.7
Education, Training & Library	9	5,300	49.6	100.0	1 – 3 months	21.93	0.2
Healthcare Support	9	2,190	0.0	75.0	< 1 month	11.63	0.4
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	8	100	0.0	0.0	< 1 month	7.25	8.0
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	2	2,200	0.0	0.0	< 1 month	9.54	0.1
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	NR	300	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Computer & Mathematical Occupations	NR	390	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Legal Occupations	NR	330	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	NR	390	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Total	923	95,070	80.6	29.0	1 – 3 months	\$15.00	1.0

1 2011 Occupational Employment
2 Occupational Code could not be determined

3 Wage does not include tips
NR Not Reported



Top 5 Job Openings

Job Title	Vacancies
Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	87
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	76
Captains, Mates and Pilots of Water Vessels	61
Sailors and Marine Oilers	55
Helpers — Extraction Workers	35

