



2011

Lafayette (Acadiana) Job Vacancy Survey

Second Quarter 2011, RLMA 4

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 4 (RLMA 4) is made up of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion parishes.

There were approximately 3,390 job vacancies in RLMA 4 during the second quarter of 2011 resulting in a vacancy rate of 1.3 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately one job was vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 60 since the second quarter of 2010, a 2 percent decrease.

When looking at the results by Industry Group, **Education & Health Services** had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 1,100) while both **Education & Health Services** and **Construction** had the highest vacancy rate (1.8 percent). The largest number of job vacancies by Occupational Group was found in **Healthcare Practitioner & Technical** (approximately

460) while the highest vacancy rate (5.8 percent) was found in the **Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media** group.

Overall, RLMA 4 employers were seeking employees with experience in 70 percent of the job vacancies. About 48 percent of the job vacancies required more than a high school education with 27 percent requiring vocational training, certification, or a two-year college degree.

Approximately 1 percent of all job vacancies offered a starting wage of \$6.55 per hour or less. Jobs paying \$6.56 – \$7.55 accounted for nearly 16 percent of vacancies. Additionally, 33 percent of vacancies were paying \$7.56 – \$10.55; 16 percent of vacancies were paying \$10.56 – \$13.00; 24 percent of vacancies were paying \$13.01 – \$18.00; and 10 percent of vacancies were paying over \$18.00 per hour. In addition, employers offered supplemented health insurance for 60 percent of all job vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 4 for 2011 was nearly unchanged in comparison to the number of vacancies in 2010. Just nearly 17 percent of all job vacancies in the state were found in RLMA 4.

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.	165	31.9
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	125	24.2
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	63	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.	38	7.4
Finding people who want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	28	5.4
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	23	4.4
Applicants' availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	18	3.5
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low-paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	17	3.3
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.)	13	2.5
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	13	2.5
Some other difficulty mentioned.	12	2.3
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	2	0.4
Total	517	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 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.

Industry Group	Number of Vacancies	Industry Employment ¹	Median Hourly Wage ³ (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Education & Health Services	1,101	60,828	10.90	1.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	55,994	7.75	1.1
Professional & Business Services	350	24,714	15.00	1.4
Construction	279	15,550	12.02	1.8
Manufacturing	268	22,635	16.86	1.2
Natural Resources & Mining	258	24,160	15.00	1.1
Leisure & Hospitality	232	24,792	8.00	0.9
Financial Activities	164	14,687	16.92	1.1
Other Services	80	6,210	8.30	1.3
Public Administration	49	9,083	11.06	0.5
Information	7	3,738	11.06	0.2
Unclassified ²	NR	187	NR	NR
Total	3,389	262,578	\$10.98	1.3

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

3 Wage does not include tips
NR Not Reported

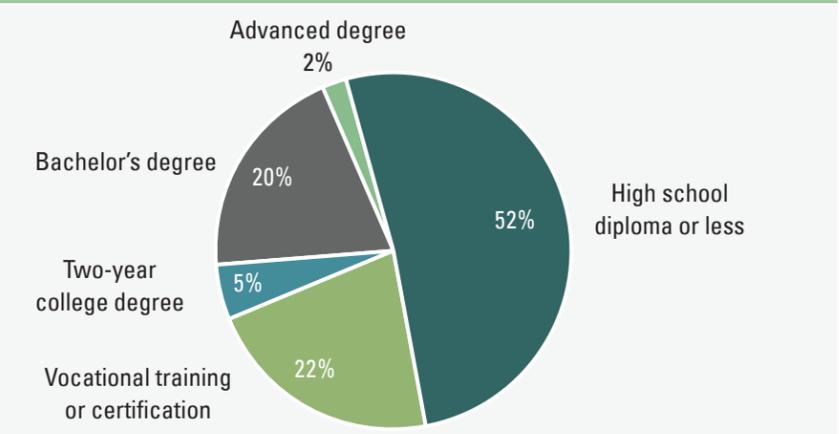
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Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation ¹	Percent Requiring at Least Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Length of Vacancy, Months	Median Hourly Wage ³ (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	458	15,720	75.6	92.4	1 – 3 months	12.00	2.9
Sales & Related	444	30,330	30.5	6.0	< 1 month	7.25	1.5
Production	436	19,170	98.0	38.9	< 1 month	15.00	2.3
Construction & Extraction	390	19,530	80.8	56.7	1 – 3 months	12.50	2.0
Office & Administrative Support	369	41,830	77.1	41.5	1 – 3 months	9.59	0.9
Healthcare Support	223	9,050	18.6	87.2	1 – 3 months	8.00	2.5
Business & Financial Operations	196	6,240	100.0	34.7	> 6 months	16.92	3.1
Food Preparation & Serving Related	182	20,590	45.0	5.7	1 – 3 months	8.58	0.9
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	150	18,010	96.4	84.7	1 – 3 months	13.39	0.8
Community & Social Services	126	3,350	71.4	18.1	< 1 month	8.00	3.8
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	81	1,390	100.0	100.0	< 1 month	13.00	5.8
Personal Care & Service	72	7,310	61.2	0.0	< 1 month	8.00	1.0
Transportation & Material Moving	58	24,140	47.7	11.0	< 1 month	7.25	0.2
Architecture & Engineering	43	4,540	80.3	62.5	1 – 3 months	19.23	0.9
Management	41	10,000	100.0	67.4	1 – 3 months	21.63	0.4
Computer & Mathematical Science	41	1,520	96.3	100.0	< 1 month	19.05	2.7
Protective Service	30	5,240	38.6	0.0	< 1 month	9.79	0.6
Life, Physical & Social Science	12	1,790	0.0	0.0	< 1 month	11.13	0.7
Education, Training & Library	10	14,570	92.2	78.5	1 – 3 months	19.44	0.1
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	9	5,960	33.5	0.0	< 1 month	7.50	0.2
Non-Classifiable Occupations ²	9	NR	100.0	0.0	1 – 3 months	10.15	NR
Legal	9	1,740	100.0	81.0	1 – 3 months	14.46	0.5
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations	NR	370	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Total	3,389	262,390	70.0	48.0	1 – 3 months	\$10.98	1.3

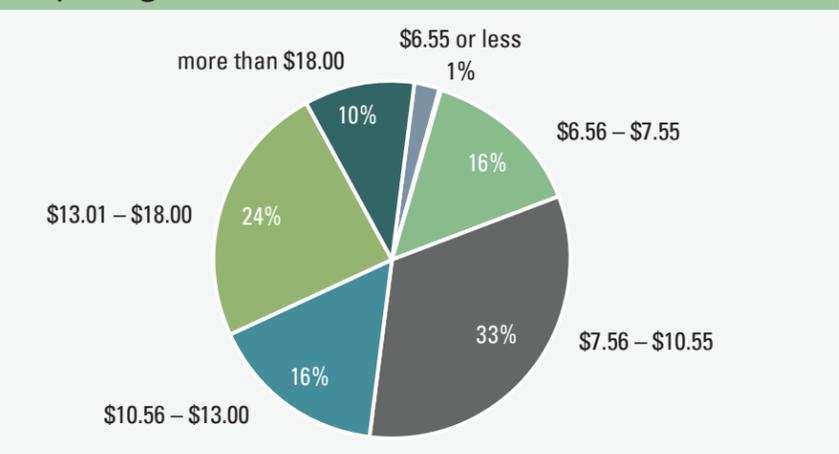
1 2011 Occupational Employment
 2 Occupational Code could not be determined
 3 Wage does not include tips
 NR Not Reported

Top 5 Job Openings Job Title	Vacancies
Retail Salespersons	307
Nursing Assistants	180
Registered Nurses	138
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	134
Mining Machine Operators	113

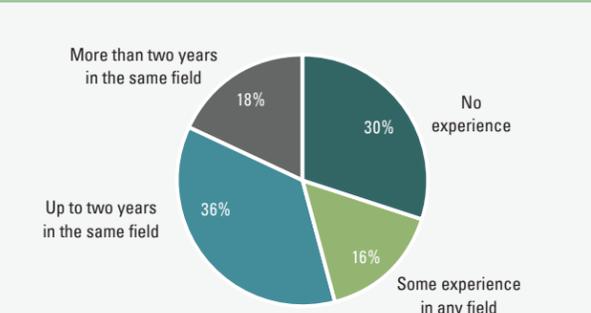
Educational Requirements of Vacancies



Hourly Wage of Vacancies



Experience Requirements of Vacancies



Employer Supplemented Health Insurance

