



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.	68	30.5
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	44	19.7
Finding people who want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	24	10.8
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	22	9.9
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.	20	9.0
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	13	5.8
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	9	4.0
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low-paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	8	3.6
Applicants' availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	7	3.1
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.)	4	1.8
Some other difficulty mentioned.	3	1.3
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	1	0.4
Total	223	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.

Alexandria (Central) Job Vacancy Survey

Second Quarter 2011, RLMA 6

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 6 (RLMA 6) is made up of Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, and Winn parishes.

There were approximately 1,130 job vacancies in RLMA 6 during the second quarter of 2011 resulting in a vacancy rate of 1.1 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately one job was vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by approximately 40 since the second quarter of 2010, a 3 percent decrease.

When looking at the results by Industry Group, **Education & Health Services** had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 430). The Industry Groups with the highest vacancy rate were **Professional & Business Services** and **Natural Resources & Mining** with a rate of 1.4 percent. The largest number of job vacancies by Occupational Group was

found in **Healthcare Practitioner & Technical** (approximately 210). **Life, Physical, & Social Science** had the highest vacancy rate (3.1 percent).

Overall, RLMA 6 employers were seeking employees with experience in 60 percent of the job vacancies. Approximately 38 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 3 percent of vacancies offered wages of \$6.55 or less. Approximately 24 percent of all job vacancies offered wages of \$6.56 – \$7.55. Jobs paying \$7.56 – \$10.55 accounted for nearly 21 percent of vacancies. Additionally, 13 percent of vacancies were paying \$10.56 – \$13.00; 22 percent of vacancies were paying \$13.01 – \$18.00; and 16 percent of vacancies were paying over \$18.00 per hour. In addition, employers offered supplemented health insurance for 61 percent of all job vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 6 for 2011 was more than nine-tenths of the number of vacancies in 2010. Job vacancies for RLMA 6 accounted for over 5 percent of all vacancies in the state.

Industry Group	Number of Vacancies	Industry Employment ¹	Median Hourly Wage ³ (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Education & Health Services	431	34,309	14.00	1.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	209	21,499	11.00	1.0
Professional & Business Services	135	9,472	7.76	1.4
Leisure & Hospitality	127	9,471	7.25	1.3
Construction	63	6,619	19.26	1.0
Manufacturing	57	5,466	12.00	1.0
Natural Resources & Mining	44	3,067	14.42	1.4
Other Services	27	2,666	8.00	1.0
Public Administration	25	8,430	8.00	0.3
Information	10	1,177	7.65	0.8
Financial Activities	4	4,103	12.00	0.1
Unclassified ²	NR	73	NR	NR
Total	1,131	106,352	\$10.56	1.1

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

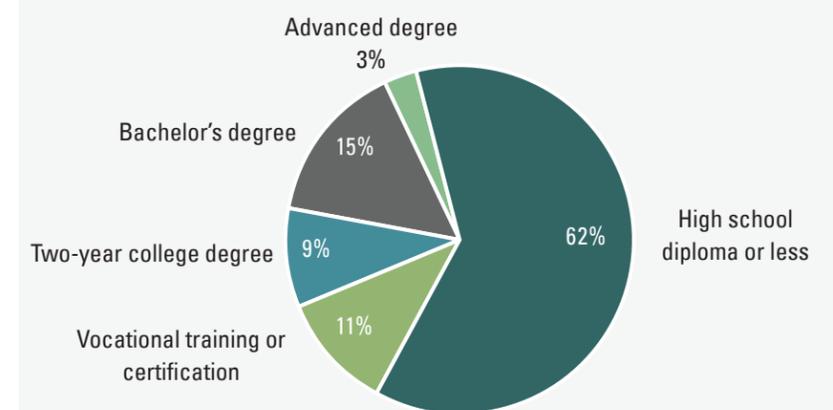
3 Wage does not include tips
NR Not Reported

Alexandria (Central) Job Vacancy Survey, Second Quarter 2011

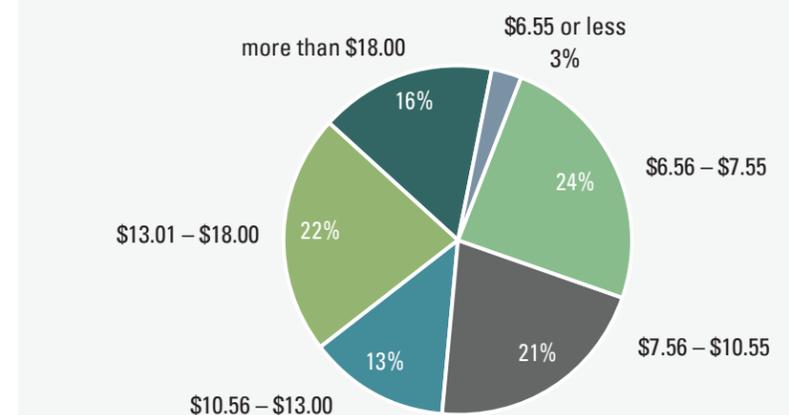
Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation ¹	Percent Requiring at Least Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Length of Vacancy, Months	Median Hourly Wage ³ (\$)	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	214	8,190	47.9	93.5	1 – 3 months	15.78	2.6
Transportation & Material Moving	139	7,490	50.2	6.6	< 1 month	9.75	1.9
Sales & Related	131	11,200	64.5	8.3	< 1 month	7.50	1.2
Office & Administrative Support	107	16,410	60.6	13.4	< 1 month	7.65	0.7
Healthcare Support	96	5,130	55.6	48.8	1 – 3 months	7.90	1.9
Production	83	3,990	96.0	9.2	< 1 month	12.00	2.1
Food Preparation & Serving Related	81	8,530	39.6	0.0	1 – 3 months	7.25	0.9
Protective Service	61	4,660	34.2	13.0	< 1 month	8.20	1.3
Business & Financial Operations	46	2,970	100.0	100.0	< 1 month	14.42	1.5
Personal Care & Service	40	4,270	17.3	0.0	3 – 6 months	7.25	0.9
Construction & Extraction	30	5,540	100.0	69.4	< 1 month	19.26	0.5
Management	27	4,500	100.0	46.1	1 – 3 months	21.78	0.6
Education, Training & Library	21	7,340	66.7	100.0	1 – 3 months	14.89	0.3
Life, Physical & Social Science	13	420	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	15.38	3.1
Architecture & Engineering	10	1,210	80.8	100.0	< 1 month	21.65	0.8
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	10	5,870	100.0	38.9	< 1 month	18.00	0.2
Legal	9	620	100.0	0.0	< 1 month	15.92	1.5
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	6	3,960	73.0	0.0	< 1 month	7.25	0.2
Computer & Mathematical Science	6	570	100.0	100.0	< 1 month	18.76	1.1
Community & Social Services	3	2,000	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	8.00	0.2
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	NR	790	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	NR	780	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Total	1,131	106,440	60.4	38.3	1 – 3 months	\$10.56	1.1

Top 5 Job Openings Job Title	Vacancies
Registered Nurses	108
Cashiers	70
Nursing Assistants	59
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	56
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	55

Educational Requirements of Vacancies



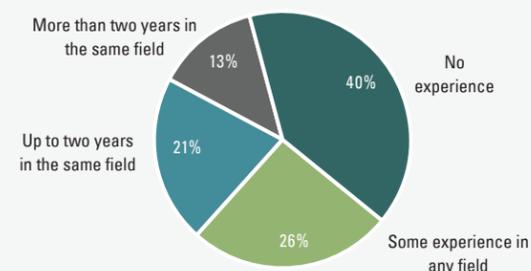
Hourly Wage of Vacancies



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



Experience Requirements of Vacancies



Employer Supplemented Health Insurance

