



2011

Shreveport (Northwest) Job Vacancy Survey

Second Quarter 2011, RLMA 7

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 7 (RLMA 7) is made up of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Webster parishes.

There were approximately 1,990 job vacancies in RLMA 7 during the second quarter of 2011, resulting in a vacancy rate of 0.9 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately one job was vacant. The number of job vacancies decreased by more than 2,420 since the second quarter of 2010, a 55 percent decrease.

When looking at the results by Industry Group, **Education and Health Services** had the largest number of job vacancies (approximately 750) while **Construction** had the highest vacancy rate (2.3 percent). The largest number of job vacancies by Occupational Group was found in **Construction & Extraction** (approximately 270), while the highest vacancy rate

(3.9 percent) was found in the **Life, Physical & Social Science** occupational group.

Overall, RLMA 7 employers were seeking employees with experience in 78 percent of the job vacancies. Approximately 53 percent of the job vacancies required more than a high school education with roughly 31 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 10 percent of vacancies. Additionally, 30 percent of vacancies were paying \$7.56 – \$10.55; 11 percent of vacancies were paying \$10.56 – \$13.00; 23 percent of vacancies were paying \$13.01 – \$18.00; and 25 percent of vacancies were paying over \$18.00 per hour. In addition, employers offered supplemented health insurance for 54 percent of all job vacancies.

The number of job vacancies in RLMA 7 for 2011 was less than one half of the number of vacancies in 2010. Job vacancies for RLMA 7 accounted for nearly 10 percent of all vacancies in the state.

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.	126	27.8
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	119	26.2
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	51	11.2
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.	39	8.6
Finding people who want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	32	7.0
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check) or pre-employment testing and screening.	28	6.2
Some other difficulty mentioned.	15	3.3
Turnover—keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	14	3.1
Applicants' availability or location of job (may not have housing and/or transportation).	12	2.6
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.)	10	2.2
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer. Low-paying job and/or competitive rates based on supply and demand.	8	1.8
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	0	0.0
Total	454	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	754	68,827	14.42	1.1
Construction	282	12,530	24.75	2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	261	27,293	8.24	1.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	179	46,703	10.00	0.4
Manufacturing	162	17,382	15.34	0.9
Professional & Business Services	156	21,173	12.50	0.7
Other Services	80	5,805	8.00	1.4
Public Administration	55	11,228	10.24	0.5
Natural Resources & Mining	30	9,070	21.25	0.3
Financial Activities	25	10,123	14.42	0.2
Information	9	3,492	8.42	0.3
Unclassified ²	NR	136	NR	NR
Total	1,993	233,762	\$12.50	0.9

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

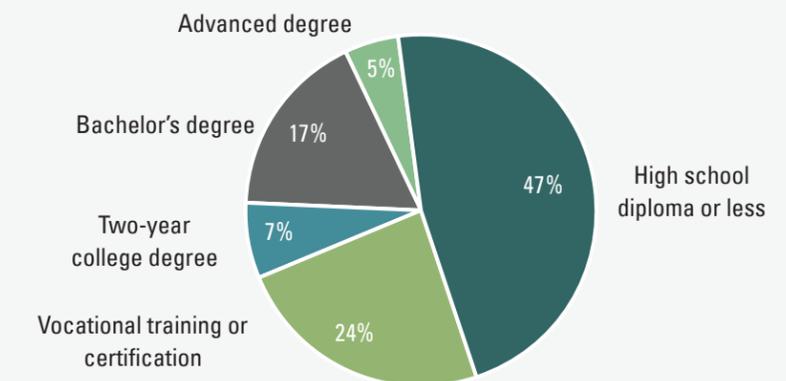
3 Wage does not include tips
NR Not Reported

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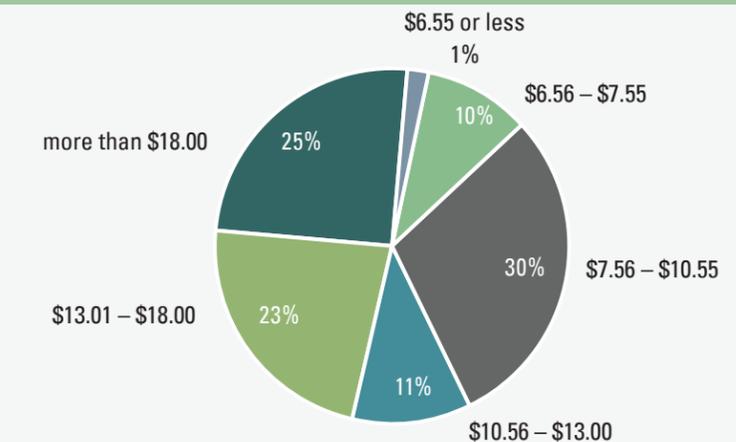
Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Employment in Occupation ¹	Percent Requiring at Least Some Work Experience	Percent Requiring More Than a High School Diploma	Median Length of Vacancy, Months	Median Hourly Wage ³	Vacancy Rate, Percent
Construction & Extraction	275	12,230	98.8	79.6	< 1 month	24.75	2.2
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	249	16,940	93.1	80.4	1 – 3 months	17.18	1.5
Healthcare Support	227	8,410	38.9	65.9	< 1 month	8.75	2.7
Education, Training & Library	187	15,610	59.1	97.8	1 – 3 months	18.17	1.2
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	161	11,890	89.4	17.7	3 – 6 months	10.00	1.4
Office & Administrative Support	143	36,240	90.8	24.8	< 1 month	9.95	0.4
Food Preparation & Serving Related	122	20,600	69.0	2.6	< 1 month	8.20	0.6
Sales & Related	103	25,650	59.6	11.1	1 – 3 months	8.75	0.4
Production	85	14,520	73.9	17.3	<1 month	15.00	0.6
Management	74	9,880	100.0	86.2	1-3 months	22.12	0.7
Personal Care & Service	63	8,360	71.6	56.5	< 1 month	7.66	0.8
Business & Financial Operations	61	5,510	100.0	59.0	1 – 3 months	15.38	1.1
Transportation & Material Moving	55	16,190	49.8	5.2	< 1 month	9.09	0.3
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	48	8,890	75.1	30.9	< 1 month	8.16	0.5
Protective Service	40	7,400	76.0	14.1	1 – 3 months	10.24	0.5
Community & Social Services	36	3,370	61.6	27.0	< 1 month	7.50	1.1
Life, Physical & Social Science	31	800	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	21.25	3.9
Computer & Mathematical Science	10	1,890	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	19.63	0.5
Legal	7	1,370	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	19.23	0.5
Architecture & Engineering	7	2,250	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	31.25	0.3
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	4	1,570	100.0	100.0	3 – 6 months	14.00	0.3
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	2	460	100.0	100.0	1 – 3 months	19.23	0.4
Non-Classifiable Occupations ²	2	NR	0.0	0.0	< 1 month	7.25	NR
Military	1	NR	100.0	0.0	< 1 month	8.00	NR
Total	1,993	230,030	77.9	53.1	1 – 3 months	\$12.50	0.9

Top 5 Job Openings Job Title	Vacancies
Electricians	208
Nursing Assistants	154
Registered Nurses	67
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	52
Teachers and Instructors	48

Educational Requirements of Vacancies



Hourly Wage of Vacancies

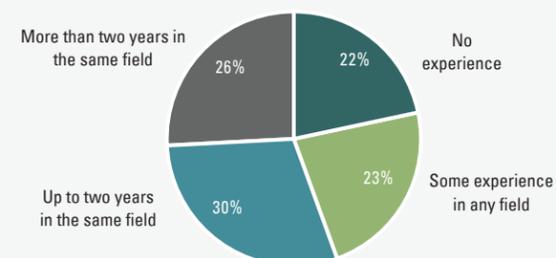


1 2011 Occupational Employment
 2 Occupational Code could not be determined
 3 Wage does not include tips
 NR Not Reported



2011

Experience Requirements of Vacancies



Employer Supplemented Health Insurance

