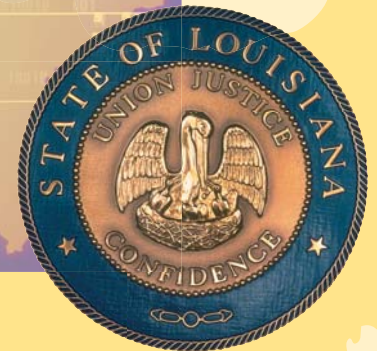


# Louisiana Workforce Information Review 2007



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# Louisiana

## Workforce Information Review

### 2007



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## MISSION

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**The mission of the Department of Labor is to help strengthen and stabilize the Louisiana economy by building a well-trained, quality workforce, by providing an efficient labor market exchange, and by helping to maintain a workplace that is supportive of worker safety and productivity.**

The Louisiana Department of Labor, 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.



**LOUISIANA WORKS**  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

**Kathleen Babineaux Blanco**  
Governor

**John Warner Smith**  
Secretary

**OFFICE OF OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICES**

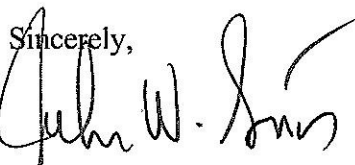
Dear Governor Blanco:

The *Louisiana Workforce Information Review 2007* is intended to serve as a tool in providing strategic economic demographic information for Louisiana and its Regions pre and post-Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Data contained in this publication are also relevant in evaluating changes to the economies of the state over the prior three years.

Annual average data for 2004, 2005, and 2006 were used to analyze claims for unemployment compensation, mass layoff statistics, civilian labor force summary, job vacancy analysis, and employment by industry data. Regional data also includes the latest industry and occupational projections for 2004 – 2014 to denote the jobs required in the future and occupational wage profiles for the state and regions.

It is the intention of this publication that local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) use the regional profiles to make informed decisions regarding the economies of their areas. The current publication may be downloaded from the Department of Labor's Web site at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), by scrolling over Labor Market Information, then clicking on Publications and Reports. Next, scroll down the page until you see the current list of available publications. This report is in a PDF file and can be opened by first clicking on the Adobe Acrobat link to access the software.

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

Sincerely,  


John Warner Smith  
Secretary of Labor

## Executive Summary

As part of the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Workforce Information Core Products and Services One-Stop LMI grant for Program Year 2006, states are required to prepare an Annual Report to the Governor. This report examines the Louisiana economy during the period 2004 through 2006 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. These Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) programs played a large part in developing the information provided in this report. In addition, this report looks at pre and post-storms labor demands via job vacancy surveys, and Louisiana's long-term occupational needs via the ten-year occupational projections.

When comparing civilian labor force for the time period 2004 to 2006, Louisiana reached its peak civilian labor force total in July 2005, one month before Hurricane Katrina and two months before Hurricane Rita. The civilian labor force totaled 2,122,078 at the peak. In contrast, the civilian labor force reached its lowest level in this three-year period in January 2006 at 1,952,690. You would have to go back to February 1996 to see a civilian labor force total this low.

Louisiana experienced a record level of Mass Layoff events in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005 at a total of 331 extended events, almost seven times higher than the 2004 annual total of 48 extended layoff events. Quarterly Separations also hit a record level in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005 at a total of 44,614 separations, more than four times the 2004 annual total of 11,093 separations. This was a direct result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which struck the Gulf Coast of Louisiana in 2005.

The number of Initial Claims on unemployment insurance (UI) in 2004 averaged 14,568 per month and averaged 13,718 per month for the first eight months of 2005. Due to the impact of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the number of Initial Claims increased from 12,710 in August 2005 to 146,109 in September 2005. Initial Claims were at pre-storm levels by December 2005 and continued to decline throughout 2006 with a monthly average of 10,868. Continued Weeks Claimed averaged 135,843 per month in 2004 and decreased during the first eight months of 2005. However, the Continued Weeks Claimed increased from 133,134 in August 2005 to 463,583 in September 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed reached a peak of 949,009 weeks claimed and began to decline but did not reach pre-storm levels until February 2006 with the average Continued Weeks Claimed for the rest of 2006 of 107,193. Benefits Paid increased from \$22,050,000 in August 2005 to \$89,873,000 in September 2005. Over the six-month period of extraordinarily high unemployment insurance activity, \$592,773,000 more in benefits were paid to claimants than were paid over the six months prior to the hurricanes.

During the period 2004 through 2006, average covered employment grew in all regions of the state except the New Orleans Region (RLMA1) and the Monroe Region (RLMA8) resulting in a 58,045 decrease in average covered employment statewide. Wages, however, grew by approximately 15 percent during this three-year period and resulted in an average weekly wage increase of \$112.

Louisiana nonfarm employment fell by 165,100 jobs from August 2005 to October 2005. Employment has recovered to a degree with the construction sector seeing their highest levels in history. In December 2006 employment was 42,900 below the pre-storms levels and 40,800 jobs lower than December 2004.

The Louisiana annual average wage for 2006 ranged from \$72,232 in Management to \$16,053 in Food Preparation & Serving Related occupations. Overall, the occupational group reporting higher annual average wages than the United States was Farming, Fishing and Forestry, solely due to the New Orleans region of the state. The highest paid occupation at the state level was Obstetricians and Gynecologists; while the lowest paid occupation was Cooks, Fast Food.

Job Vacancy Surveys have been conducted during the second quarter of 2004, 2005, and 2006. The number of job vacancies reported jumped from the lowest number of 55,371 in 2005 to 125,349 in 2006. The largest number of job vacancies by industry sector was in trade, transportation and utilities for all three surveys. The largest number of job vacancies by occupational group varied from trade, transportation and utilities in 2004 to food preparation and serving-related in 2005 to construction and extraction in 2006. For the second quarter 2006, the New Orleans Region (RLMA 1) had 48 percent of the job vacancies for the state.

Based upon the Industry and Occupational Projections, 2004-2014, the four fastest growing industries in Louisiana by percentage increase are: (1) Funds, trusts, & other financial vehicles, (2) Motion picture & sound recording, (3) Water transportation; and (4) Ambulatory health care services. Louisiana is projected to add 123,167 workers to the state's payrolls by 2014. This translates to an overall state percent increase of 6.1 percent above the 2004 average industry employment level. Food services and drinking places had the highest numerical need for workers with a projection of 24,924 additional staff needed.

Of the twenty fastest growing occupations by percentage growth, eleven of them are in medical-related fields. Given the focus on incentives for the film industry in the state, it is not surprising that the fastest growing occupation over the ten-year period based upon percentage growth is Actor, others were home health aides, and network systems and data communications analyst. Louisiana followed the national trend of occupations that tend to work long hours needing the most workers with cashiers, retail salespersons, and waiters and waitresses leading this list.

If you would like detailed information on workforce information products, visit the Louisiana Department of Labor Web site at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net) and click on Labor Market Information and select the topic you would like to review.

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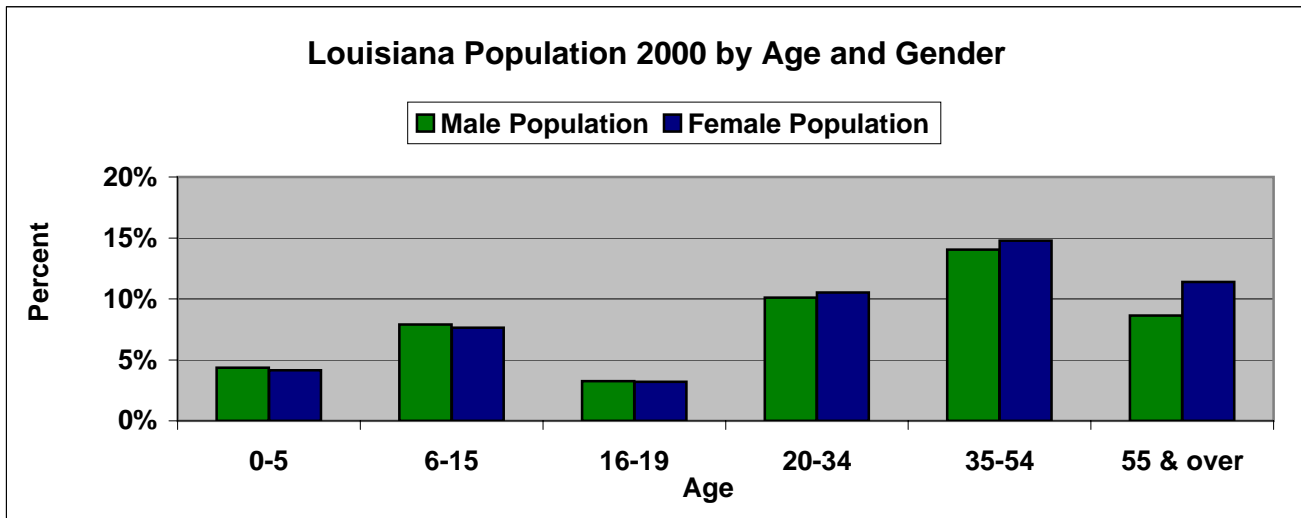
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
Louisiana	4,468,976	380,545	693,885	289,111	921,977	1,288,406	895,052
Males	2,159,852	194,922	353,029	145,781	452,155	627,548	386,417
Females	2,309,124	185,623	340,856	143,330	469,822	660,858	508,635

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
Louisiana	100%	8%	16%	6%	21%	29%	20%
Males	48%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	9%
Females	52%	4%	8%	3%	11%	15%	11%

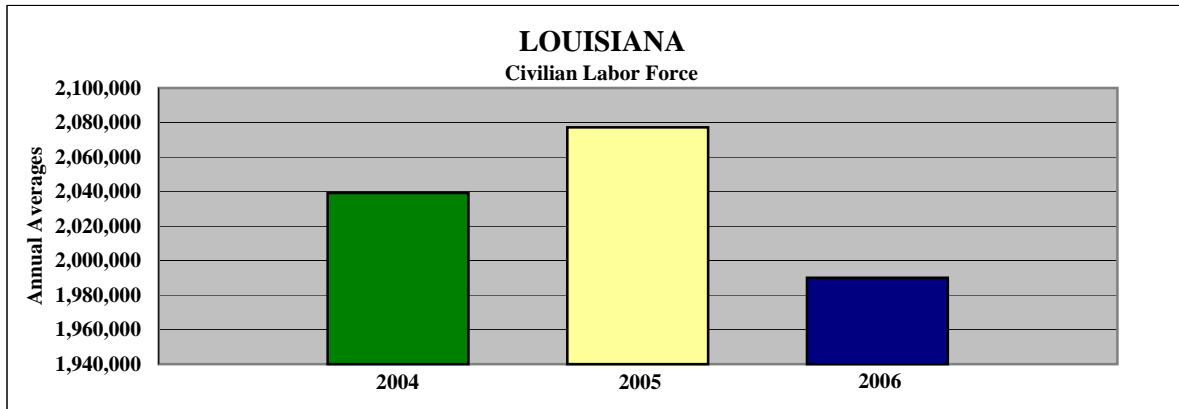
The Louisiana population in 2000 was composed of 48 percent males and 52 percent females. The percentage of males compared to females remains even from birth to 19 years old. The female population began to widen the margin starting with the age of 20 year olds and above. The increase ranged from 1 to 2 percent more females than males in the higher age groups.

The percentage of the population in each Regional Labor Market Area (RLMA) compared to the statewide population ranges from 30 percent in the New Orleans region to 5 percent in the Houma RLMA. The second highest population percentage was in the Baton Rouge region with 19 percent. Both Lafayette and Shreveport regions had 13 percent of the statewide population. The next highest percentage was 7 percent for both Alexandria and Monroe regions. Lake Charles had 6 percent of the Louisiana population in 2000 with the Houma region at 5 percent.

Area	Total Population	Percent of Total Population
NO - RLMA 1	1,337,726	30%
BR - RLMA 2	850,487	19%
HOUMA - RLMA 3	217,865	5%
LAF - RLMA 4	601,654	13%
LC - RLMA 5	283,429	6%
ALEX - RLMA 6	301,390	7%
SHRV - RLMA 7	565,069	13%
MON - RLMA 8	311,356	7%
Louisiana	4,468,976	100%

Statewide

2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
2,039,182	5.5%	2,077,123	6.7%	1,990,120	4.0%

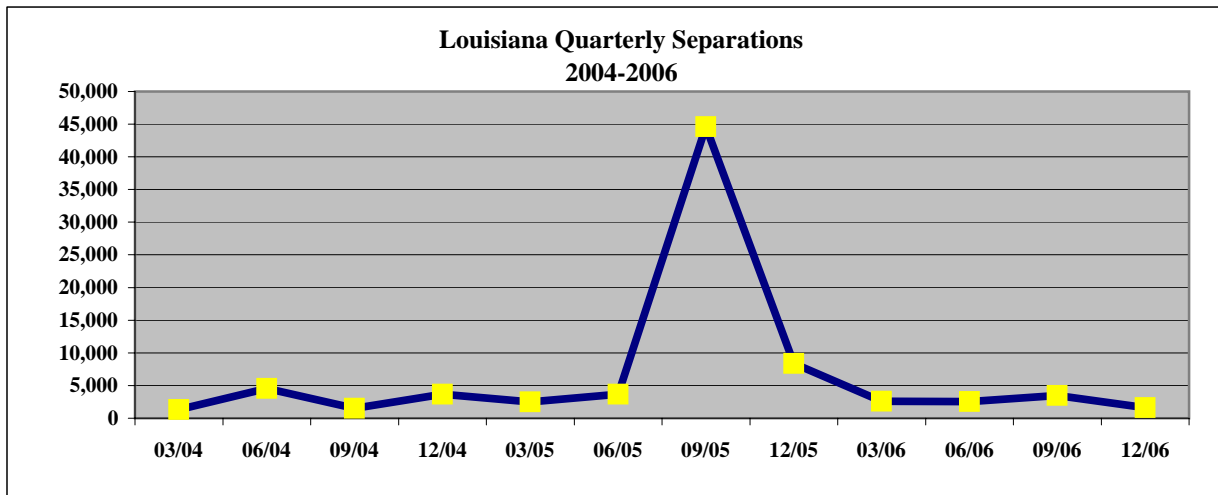
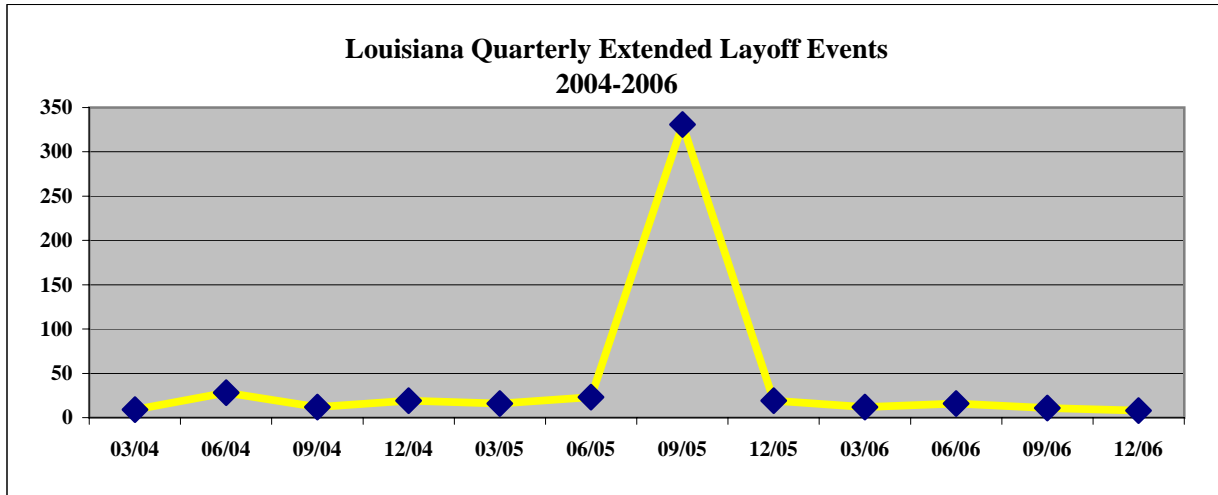


The annual average for 2006 marks the lowest point in the civilian labor force series since 1996. The impact of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 had on the estimation process of computing the civilian labor force estimates was one that had never been experienced before. Several components of the estimation process were effected: an increase in Unemployment Insurance Claims, lack of reliable Current Population Survey (commonly referred to as household data) and the disruption of commutation patterns throughout the state.

The adverse affects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in Louisiana are seen when comparing the state's labor force over the past three years. Before the storms hit, the state registered the highest labor force and employment totals seen in the statewide series, which dates back to 1976. The annual average labor force total for 2006 is about 87,000 less than the 2005 total, as illustrated in the above graph. The civilian labor force was and still is in a state of recovery. The 2006 total is about 50,000 less in comparison to the 2004 labor force. Although the state's labor force did increase from the record lows experienced in the first part of 2006, the annual average for the year fell short of reaching the 2 million mark for the first time in nine years. Beginning with April 2005 the state started experiencing record high employment levels. In July 2005 the state recorded the highest employment level in the statewide series but by November 2005 the state also recorded the record high unemployed level and unemployment rate. The state recorded unemployment rates above the 10.0% mark for three months (September - November 2005) which was historic for Louisiana. In addition to historic unemployment rates, the unemployed levels for these months were at an all time high. Louisiana's has shown signs of improvement and growth, but a full recovery from the storms of 2005 will take years to occur. Labor force conditions in the state must continue to strengthen and improve to achieve economic success.

**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.

## Satewide



An annual average of 68 Extended Mass Layoff Actions were taken by employers for all of 2004 that resulted in the separation of 11,093 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days. In the third quarter of 2005, Louisiana recorded the highest number of employee separations filed due to Extended Mass Layoff Events in September 2005, the first week following Hurricane Katrina, which struck the Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005. These increases continued in the week following Hurricane Rita, which made landfall in Louisiana on September 24, 2005. During this period, Louisiana employers took 331 Extended Mass Layoff Actions that resulted in the separation of 44,614 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days. Layoff activity in the third quarter of 2006 was sharply lower than in the same period a year ago; employers reported an annual average of 47 Extended Mass Layoff Actions that resulted in 10,299 workers being separated from their jobs. Although, Louisiana recorded historic highs in the number of layoff events and separations for 2005, the overall level of layoff events and separations, to date have returned to normal activity. For additional information, please visit [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

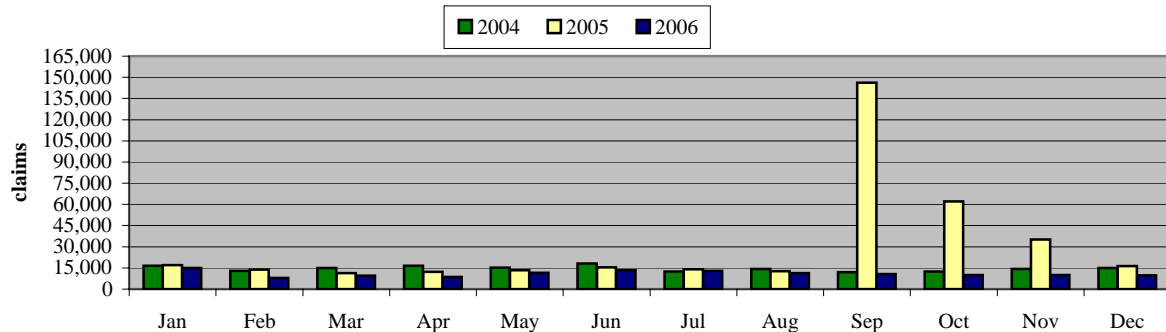
**Source:** The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program that identifies and tracks the effects of major job cutbacks, using data from each state's unemployment insurance database.

**Extended Layoff Event:** Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits from an establishment during a 5-week period, with at least 50 workers separated for more than 30 days.

## Statewide

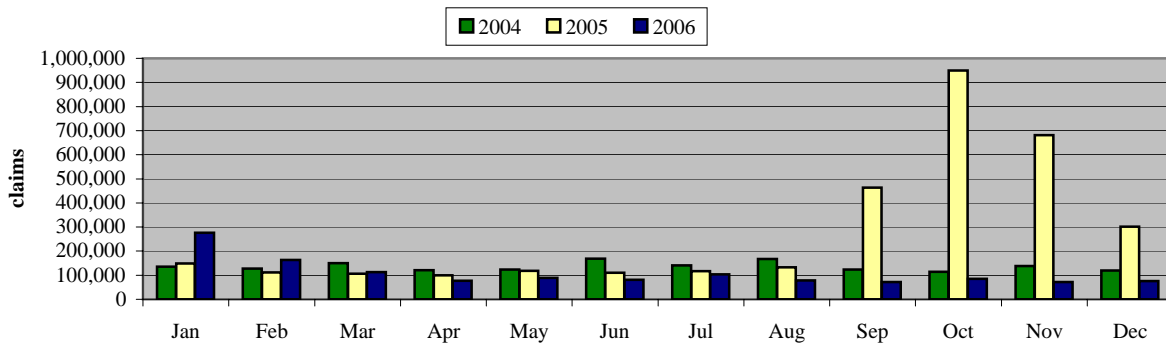
## Initial Claims

Figure UI 1



## Continued Weeks Claimed

Figure UI 2



An initial claim on unemployment insurance (UI) is a claim for unemployment filed to determine entitlement and eligibility for UI benefits. Figure UI 1 shows the number of Initial Claims filed for each month for 2004, 2005 and 2006. The number of Initial Claims in 2004 averaged 14,568 per month. Initial Claims were down in the beginning of 2005 averaging 13,718 per month from January to August. Due to the unprecedented number of layoffs and separations following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the number of Initial Claims increased from 12,710 in August 2005 to 146,109 in September 2005. Over a three-month period, Initial Claims decreased quickly and had returned to pre-storm levels by December 2005. Initial Claims continued to be low throughout 2006 with a monthly average of 10,868.

Continued Weeks Claimed are post-initial weekly intrastate claims on unemployment insurance including multiple weeks claimed by one claimant in a month. Claims made from other states on Louisiana unemployment insurance are not counted. Figure UI 2 shows Continued Weeks Claimed for each month. The number of Continued Weeks Claimed in 2004 averaged 135,843 per month. Continued Weeks Claimed were down in 2005 before Hurricane Katrina averaging 118,057 per month from January to August. The number of Continued Weeks Claimed increased from 133,145 in August 2005 to 463,583 in September 2005. They peaked in October 2005 at 949,009 weeks claimed and then began a steady decline but did not reach pre-storm levels until February 2006. Continued Weeks Claimed continued to be low through the rest of 2006 with an average of 107,193 weeks claimed per month.



## Statewide

**Benefits Paid**

Figure UI 3

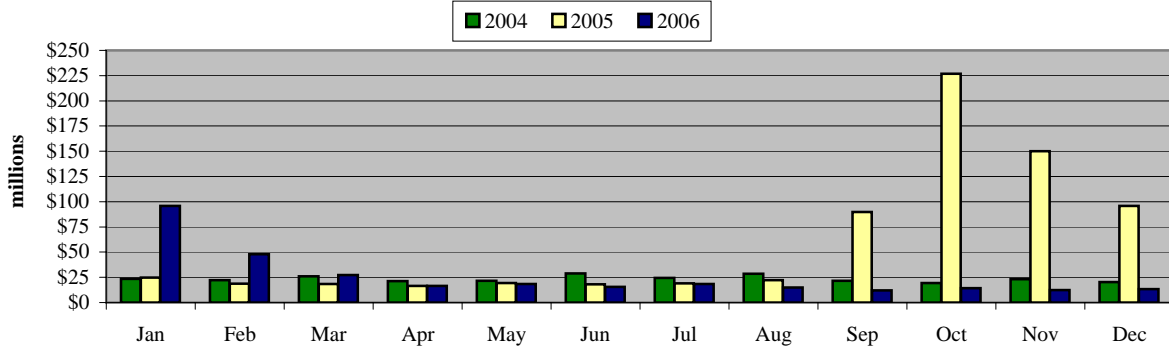
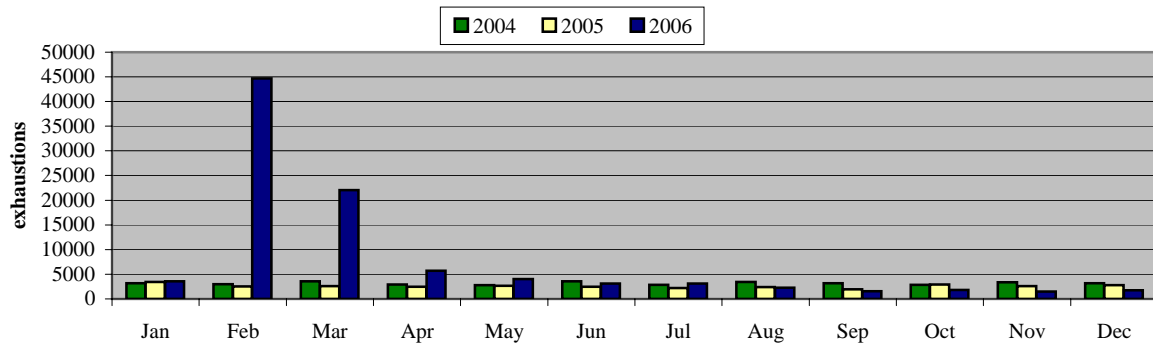
**Exhaustions**

Figure UI 4

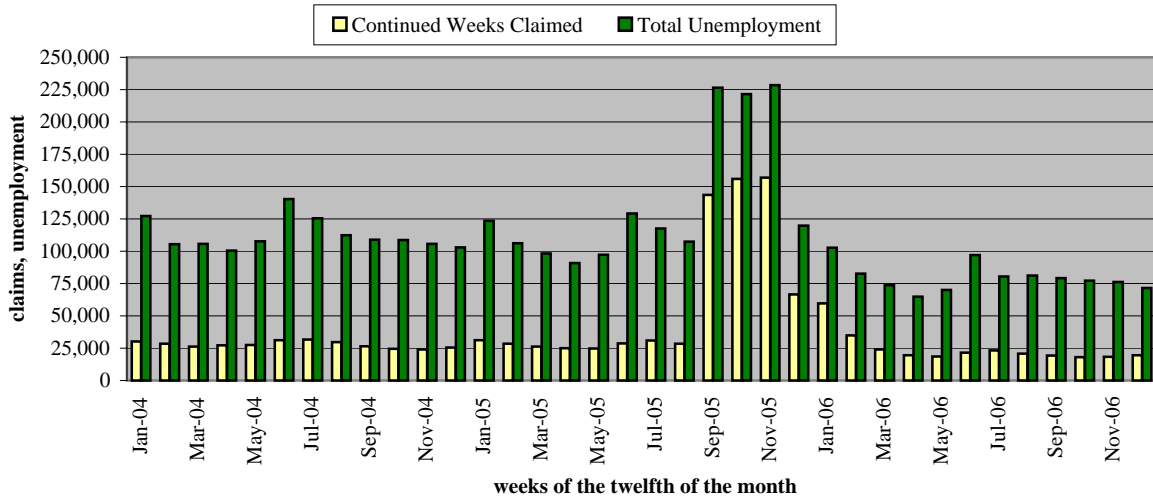


Benefits Paid is the dollar amount of unemployment insurance benefits paid to claimants in a month. (See Figure UI 3) The dynamics in the Benefits Paid series mirror those of Continued Weeks Claimed. The total amount of benefits paid to claimants in 2004 averaged \$23,357,000 per month. The monthly average for the first eight months of 2005 was \$19,628,000. Benefits Paid increased from \$22,050,000 in August 2005 to \$89,873,000 in September 2005. Benefits paid to claimants peaked in October 2005 at \$226,866,000 and then began a steady decline. They did not reach pre-storm levels until March 2006. This is the time when many claimants who filed a UI claim after Hurricane Katrina were no longer eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. Over this six-month period of extraordinarily high unemployment insurance activity, \$592,773,000 more benefits were paid to claimants than were paid over the six months prior to the hurricanes. In the remaining months of 2006, benefits paid to claimants were less than both of the 2004 and 2005 levels.

Exhaustions are the number of claimants that have completely exhausted the amount of regular unemployment insurance for which they are eligible. Figure UI 4 shows Exhaustions for each month. The high levels in February and March of 2006 are a result of claimants who filed after the hurricanes not being employed before the end of their eligibility for regular unemployment insurance. These levels correspond to the end of the 26 week limit on eligibility for regular unemployment insurance.

**UI Claims\* Compared to Total Unemployment\*\***

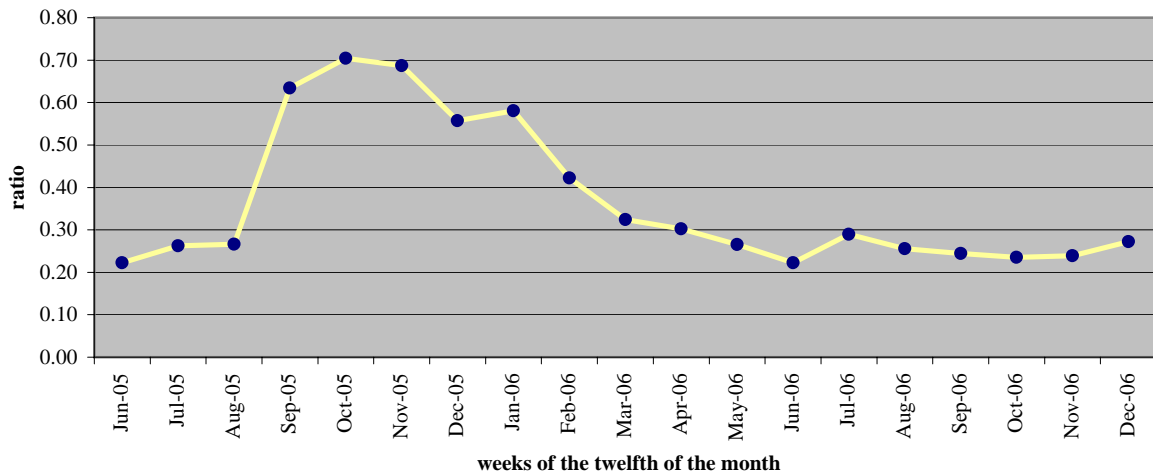
Figure UI 5



**Continued Weeks Claimed\* Divided by Total Unemployment\*\***

*A ratio of UI claims activity relative to total unemployment*

Figure UI 6



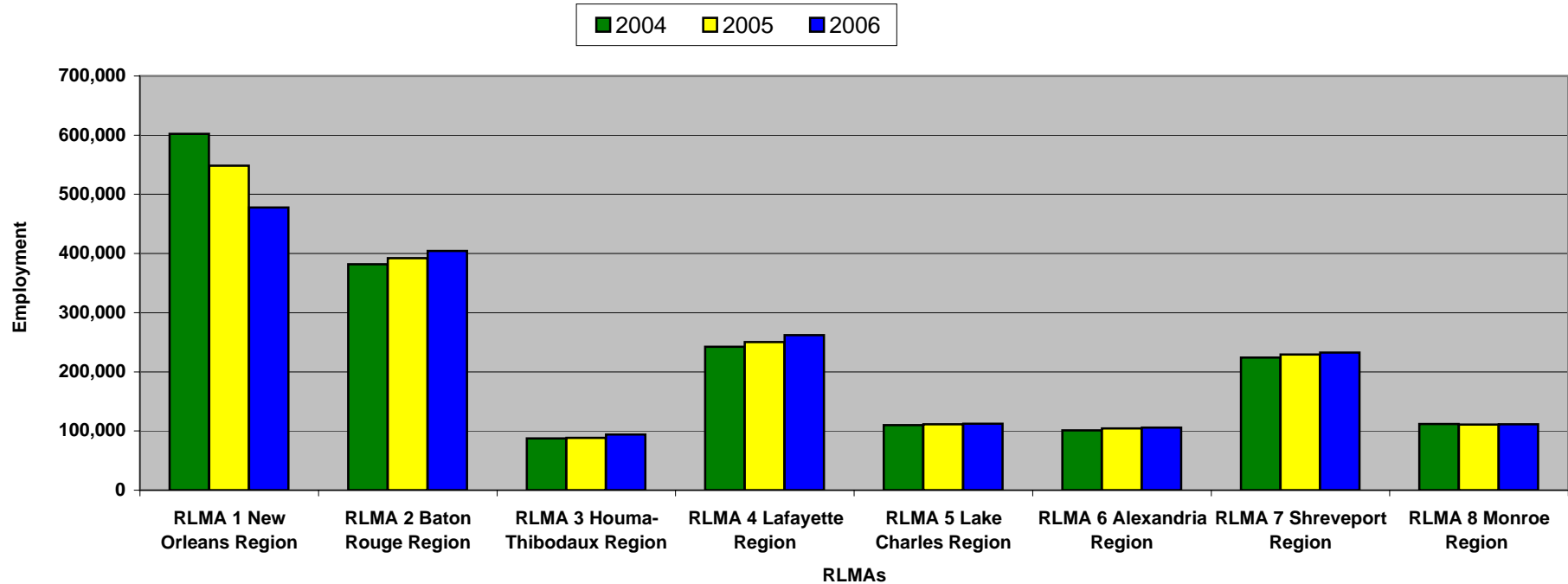
\* Claims are the number of Continued Weeks Claimed for the week of the twelfth of the month.  
 \*\* Total Unemployment refers to the number of people 16 years old and over who are estimated to be unemployed using the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) methodology.

Figure UI 5 compares Continued Weeks Claimed for the week of the twelfth of each month with the estimated level of Louisiana total unemployed in the civilian labor force. The average number of Continued Weeks Claimed for the week of the twelfth in 2004 was 27,750. The average number of unemployed workers in the civilian labor force for 2004 was 112,588. Total unemployment increased from 107,341 in August 2005 to 226,383 in September 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed had an even more dramatic change. Claims increased from 28,568 for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 143,504 in September 2005. By October 2005, for every ten unemployed workers in the civilian labor force there were 7 unemployed workers claiming regular unemployment insurance for the week of the twelfth. (See Figure UI 6) This ratio continued to be abnormally high into 2006, and did not return to pre-storm levels until May 2006.

In this ratio, Continued Weeks Claimed is used as a measure of the number of people claiming unemployment insurance. In contrast to continued weeks claimed for the month, this measure does not count multiple claims made by a claimant for the different weeks of the month. Another distinction that must be made is that these claims include interstate and commuter claims from claimants who are not residents of Louisiana. Due to the fact that residents of other states are included in Continued Weeks Claimed but are not counted in Louisiana total unemployment, Figure UI 6 should not be interpreted as the percentage of total unemployment claiming unemployment insurance. Instead, it is a ratio describing unemployment insurance activity relative to total unemployment.

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program produces monthly and annual unemployment estimates. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).

Figure 1 RLMAs  
 Comparison of Employment by Regional Labor Market Areas  
 2004, 2005, and 2006



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

Figure 1 RLMAs provides a comparison of employment by Regional Labor Market Area during the three-year period. All the RLMAs experienced an increase in employment during this time period except for the New Orleans RLMA, which lost approximately 124,000 in employment, and the Monroe RLMA, which lost less than 500 in employment. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).

**Table 1 Employment**  
**Louisiana Average Employment**

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>1,855,667</b>	<b>1,865,109</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>1,840,669</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>1,807,064</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	12,000	11,865	-1.1%	11,437	-3.6%	10,727	-6.2%	-9.6%	
Mining	44,104	41,890	-5.0%	42,478	1.4%	45,856	8.0%	9.5%	
Utilities	15,483	15,324	-1.0%	15,055	-1.8%	14,490	-3.8%	-5.4%	
Construction	128,483	126,163	-1.8%	127,857	1.3%	139,138	8.8%	10.3%	
Manufacturing	155,900	152,336	-2.3%	151,804	-0.3%	152,024	0.1%	-0.2%	
Wholesale Trade	75,687	75,675	0.0%	73,956	-2.3%	72,782	-1.6%	-3.8%	
Retail Trade	224,799	225,157	0.2%	220,548	-2.0%	221,048	0.2%	-1.8%	
Transportation & Warehousing	79,703	78,124	-2.0%	77,881	-0.3%	77,347	-0.7%	-1.0%	
Information	32,040	32,744	2.2%	32,054	-2.1%	29,834	-6.9%	-8.9%	
Finance & Insurance	64,363	63,937	-0.7%	61,165	-4.3%	59,145	-3.3%	-7.5%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	35,272	35,796	1.5%	35,114	-1.9%	33,953	-3.3%	-5.1%	
Professional & Technical Services	71,851	74,660	3.9%	75,719	1.4%	79,402	4.9%	6.4%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	21,583	21,975	1.8%	21,653	-1.5%	21,039	-2.8%	-4.3%	
Administrative & Waste Services	91,038	92,197	1.3%	94,404	2.4%	97,684	3.5%	6.0%	
Educational Services	175,994	180,603	2.6%	173,473	-3.9%	159,642	-8.0%	-11.6%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	260,205	265,320	2.0%	264,501	-0.3%	253,083	-4.3%	-4.6%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	46,534	47,192	1.4%	44,417	-5.9%	39,715	-10.6%	-15.8%	
Accommodation & Food Services	161,910	166,705	3.0%	163,013	-2.2%	153,719	-5.7%	-7.8%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	52,485	52,573	0.2%	49,701	-5.5%	47,346	-4.7%	-9.9%	
Public Administration	104,315	102,897	-1.4%	101,730	-1.1%	96,395	-5.2%	-6.3%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 1,865,109 (Table 1 Employment), an increase of 0.5 percent when compared to 1,855,667 in 2003. Employment in 33 of the 64 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 7.9 percent in Vernon parish, to the largest decrease of 7.7 percent in Morehouse parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 265,320 employees, or 14.2 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 364,748, or 19.6 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 34,599 (1.9 percent); state workers averaged 107,110 (5.7 percent); and local government workers averaged 223,039 (12.0 percent), while the private sector made up 80.4 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 1,840,669 (Table 1 Employment), a decrease of 1.3 percent when compared to 1,865,109 in 2004. This decrease was primarily due to the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Employment in 36 of the 64 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 9.9 percent in Livingston parish, to the greatest decrease of 19.6 percent in St. Bernard parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 264,501 employees, or 14.4 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 357,822, or 19.4 percent of total employment, which was slightly down from 2004. Federal workers averaged 33,995 (1.8 percent); state workers averaged 106,694 (5.8 percent); and local government workers averaged 217,133 (11.8 percent), while the private sector made up 80.6 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 1,807,064 (Table 1 Employment), a decrease of 1.8 percent when compared to 1,840,669 in 2005. This decrease was a result of the slow restoration of the hurricane damaged areas. Employment in 41 of the 64 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 10.2 percent in St. John the Baptist parish, to the greatest decrease of 44.9 percent in St. Bernard parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 253,083 employees, or 14.0 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 332,798, or 18.4 percent of total employment, which was down from 2005. Federal workers averaged 32,311 (1.8 percent); state workers averaged 98,424 (5.4 percent); and local government workers averaged 202,063 (11.2 percent), while the private sector made up 81.6 percent of employment.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment fell by 58,045 or 3.1 percent (Table 1 Employment). However, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose to 4.9 percent and 14.8 percent, respectively. Clean-up of hurricane related debris and reconstruction in the areas affected by the hurricanes played a major role in the changes in employment, units, and wages after the hurricanes. Employment increased in 42 of the 64 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest of 13.8 percent in Livingston parish, to the greatest decrease of 55.7 percent in St. Bernard parish. The construction sector had the largest average annual average unit increase with 1,416 units, a 14.1 percent increase over the three-year period. The second largest increase was in administrative and waste services with an increase of 549 units, a 9.8 percent increase.

## Table 1 Units

## Louisiana Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>115,635</b>	<b>115,957</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>119,565</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>121,647</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	1,599	1,574	-1.6%	1,572	-0.1%	1,553	-1.2%	-1.3%
Mining	1,602	1,532	-4.4%	1,536	0.3%	1,608	4.7%	5.0%
Utilities	846	840	-0.7%	838	-0.2%	833	-0.6%	-0.8%
Construction	9,997	10,018	0.2%	10,529	5.1%	11,434	8.6%	14.1%
Manufacturing	4,222	4,118	-2.5%	4,193	1.8%	4,241	1.1%	3.0%
Wholesale Trade	7,782	7,804	0.3%	7,878	0.9%	7,965	1.1%	2.1%
Retail Trade	16,974	17,038	0.4%	17,182	0.8%	17,071	-0.6%	0.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	4,428	4,360	-1.5%	4,536	4.0%	4,674	3.0%	7.2%
Information	1,727	1,705	-1.3%	1,771	3.9%	1,742	-1.6%	2.2%
Finance & Insurance	7,684	7,778	1.2%	8,149	4.8%	8,242	1.1%	6.0%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4,943	5,002	1.2%	5,147	2.9%	5,237	1.7%	4.7%
Professional & Technical Services	11,912	11,876	-0.3%	12,369	4.2%	12,783	3.3%	7.6%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	507	551	8.7%	571	3.6%	578	1.2%	4.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	5,541	5,626	1.5%	5,931	5.4%	6,175	4.1%	9.8%
Educational Services	960	968	0.8%	1,009	4.2%	1,035	2.6%	6.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	10,847	11,066	2.0%	11,493	3.9%	11,597	0.9%	4.8%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1,484	1,505	1.4%	1,528	1.5%	1,529	0.1%	1.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	7,719	7,844	1.6%	8,190	4.4%	8,179	-0.1%	4.3%
Other Services, except Public Administration	10,619	10,510	-1.0%	10,475	-0.3%	10,179	-2.8%	-3.1%
Public Administration	3,198	3,123	-2.3%	3,126	0.1%	3,135	0.3%	0.4%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 115,957 (Table 1 Units), up 0.3 percent compared to 115,635 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (17,038) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector (551).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 119,565 (Table 1 Units), up 3.1 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (17,182) and the smallest number of annual average units (571) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 121,647 (Table 1 Units), up 1.7 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (17,071) and the smallest number of annual average units (578) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 1 Wage - Louisiana Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Statewide Average</b>	<b>\$592</b>	<b>\$613</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>\$646</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>\$704</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	449	447	-0.4%	470	5.2%	503	7.0%	12.6%
Mining	1,116	1,163	4.2%	1,245	7.0%	1,383	11.1%	18.9%
Utilities	901	967	7.3%	1,006	4.1%	972	-3.4%	0.5%
Construction	627	649	3.5%	683	5.3%	795	16.4%	22.6%
Manufacturing	876	923	5.3%	950	3.0%	1,006	5.9%	9.0%
Wholesale Trade	767	805	4.9%	861	7.0%	951	10.5%	18.2%
Retail Trade	387	394	1.9%	413	4.7%	454	9.9%	15.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	741	780	5.3%	814	4.3%	895	10.0%	14.7%
Information	674	702	4.1%	746	6.2%	781	4.7%	11.2%
Finance & Insurance	732	776	6.0%	869	12.0%	914	5.2%	17.8%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	581	601	3.5%	641	6.6%	749	16.8%	24.6%
Professional & Technical Services	835	859	2.9%	888	3.3%	970	9.2%	12.9%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	918	965	5.2%	1,115	15.5%	1,105	-0.9%	14.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	419	443	5.9%	485	9.4%	571	17.7%	28.8%
Educational Services	562	575	2.2%	591	2.8%	617	4.4%	7.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	585	607	3.8%	626	3.1%	664	6.1%	9.4%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	447	456	2.0%	486	6.5%	483	-0.6%	5.9%
Accommodation & Food Services	237	242	2.3%	252	4.0%	277	9.9%	14.4%
Other Services, except Public Administration	430	449	4.3%	464	3.3%	520	12.1%	15.8%
Public Administration	648	678	4.7%	715	5.4%	751	5.0%	10.7%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

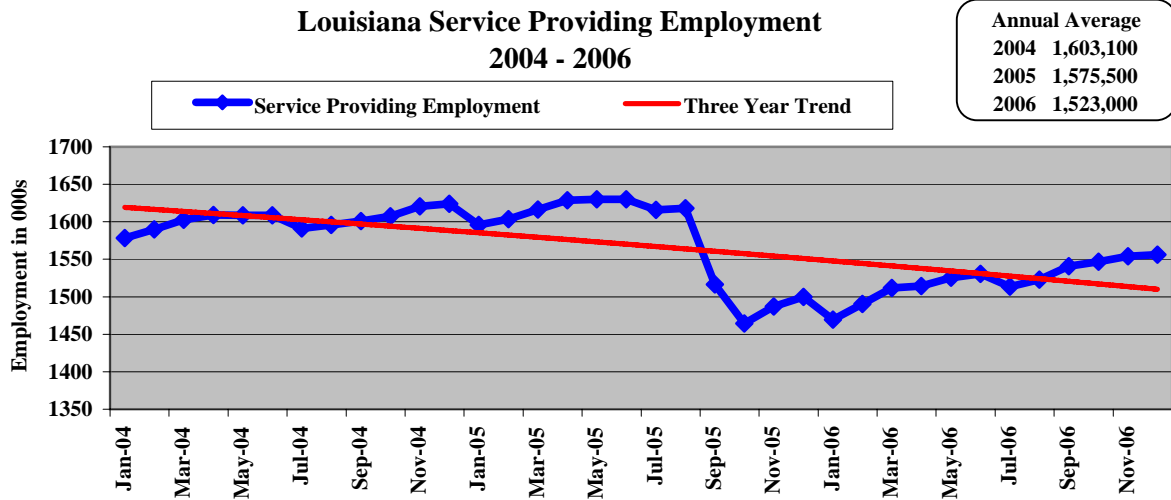
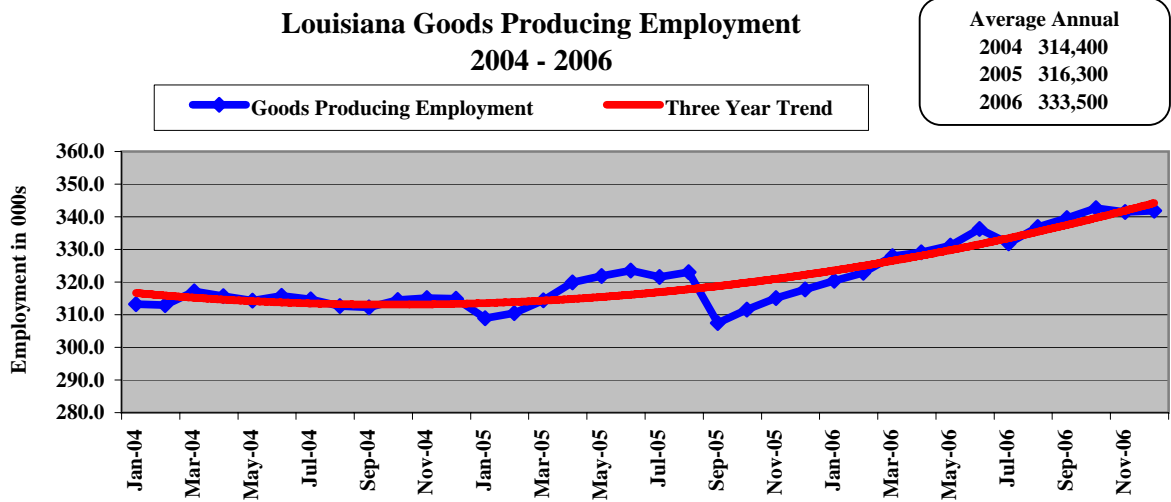
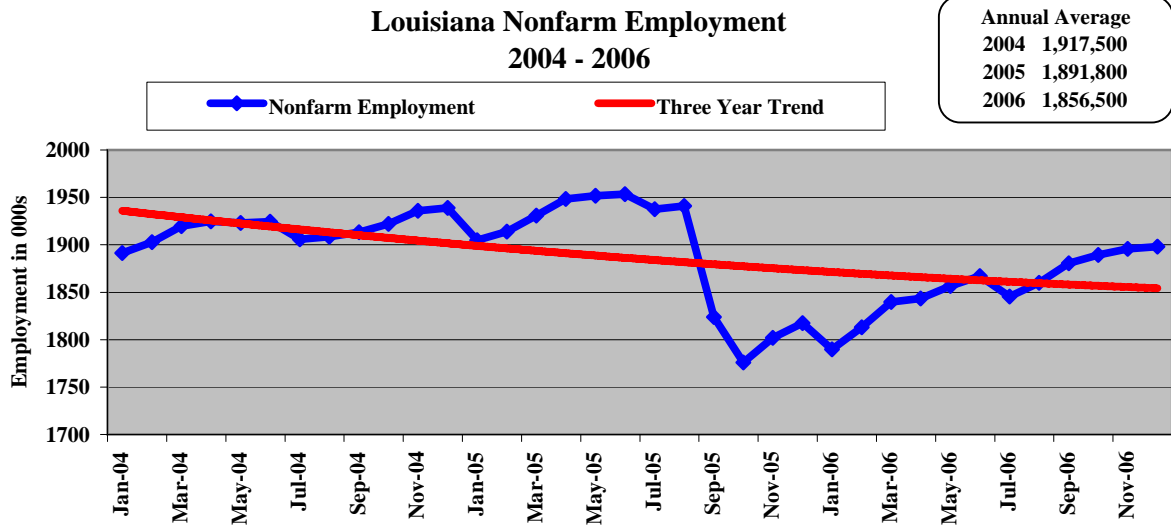
Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$2.3 billion to register a gain of 4.1 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment continued to rise in 2004, with an average increase of \$21.19 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$613.17 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,163.07 in the mining sector to a low of \$242.21 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 1 Wage. The New Orleans Region (RLMA 1) had the highest average weekly wage of \$663.99 while the Monroe Region (RLMA 8) had the lowest average weekly wage of \$513.16.

Total wages for 2005 increased slightly over \$2.3 billion to register a gain of 3.9 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$646, which was an average increase of \$33.00 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,245 in the mining sector to a low of \$252 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 1 Wage. The New Orleans Region (RLMA 1) had the highest average weekly wage of \$718 while the Monroe Region (RLMA 8) had the lowest average weekly wage of \$537.

Total wages for 2006 increased slightly over \$4.3 billion to register a gain of 7.0 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$704, which was an average increase of \$58.00 from 2005. The mining industry sector (\$1,383) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$277) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 1 Wage. The New Orleans Region (RLMA 1) had the highest average weekly wage of \$817 and the Alexandria Region (RLMA 6) had the lowest average weekly wage of \$562.

The largest average weekly wage increase was in real estate and rental and leasing with an increase of \$148, a 24.6 percent increase. Construction came in second with a \$146 increase, an increase of 22.6 percent, while administrative and waste services was third with a \$128 increase, an increase of 28.8 percent.





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**Statewide**

In 2005, Louisiana saw arguably the 2 largest economic events in its history occur within one month of each other, Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. The devastating effect those storms had on Louisiana's Gulf Coast, and the ripple effects felt throughout the state, are still being felt almost 2 years later. From August 2005 to October 2005, Louisiana nonfarm employment fell by 165,100 jobs. Employment has recovered to a degree, with sectors such as construction seeing their highest levels in history. However, a year and half after the storm, employment in December 2006 was 42,900 below the pre-storms levels, and 40,800 jobs lower than December 2004. With the large number of citizens who left both the region of New Orleans and the state itself on a permanent basis, it is doubtful that Louisiana will return to its pre-storm employment levels in the near term.

The year 2004 was a good year for Louisiana. Over the course of the year, Louisiana gained 47,600 jobs. The largest gain the state saw in 2004 came in trade, transportation and utilities, which saw a gain of 11,900 jobs from January to December. The state also saw a strong increase in leisure and hospitality, which increased by 11,700 jobs in 2004. The driving force behind that figure was the food services and drinking places sector, which rose by 10,200 positions. During the course of the year, Louisiana also saw a gain in manufacturing of 3,200 jobs.

Looking at the annual averages, Louisiana gained 12,000 nonfarm jobs when compared to the 2003 average. Average goods producing employment actually declined in 2004 from 2003, losing 7,500 jobs. All three goods producing subsectors (Natural resources and mining, construction, and manufacturing) showed an average decline when compared to the 2003 averages. On the service providing side, 2004 saw an average gain of 19,500 jobs when compared to 2003. Education and health care services showed the highest average gain between the years, with an average of 6,200 more jobs in 2004, with 4,700 of that increase seen in health care services. Leisure and hospitality also showed a strong increase of 5,500 jobs between the 2003 and 2004 averages. Professional and business services rose by 3,700; while trade, transportation and warehousing dropped by 1,100.

The year 2005 of course saw historically unprecedented events in Louisiana's and our nation's history. The devastating effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita wiped out a record performance in the Louisiana job market. The June 2005 nonfarm employment figure was calculated to be 1,953,300, the highest total in Louisiana history. In fact, the figures for April and May 2005 were also record numbers, until they were eclipsed by the subsequent month's total. Between January 2005 and June 2005, the nonfarm employment series gained 48,400 jobs. The drop of 165,100 jobs in the two months after the storms brought the nonfarm employment series to a level not seen since February 1996. Of all the super sector series, only one, natural resources and mining, was seemingly unaffected by the destruction, losing only 600 jobs in the months of September and October combined.

Comparing the annual average nonfarm employment levels of 2005 to 2004, we see a decline of 25,700 jobs. With the hurricanes striking in the 3rd quarter of 2005, more months showed no hurricane effects, making the changes in annual averages far less severe than looking at a traditional over the year change. In goods producing, the 2005 figure was 1,900 more than the previous year, with a 2,400 gain in construction helping to counter a 1,100 loss in manufacturing. The service providing portion of total employment bore the brunt of the storm related job losses, with the 2005 average figure showing 27,600 fewer jobs than in 2004. Seven of the eight super sectors in service providing showed a loss in 2005 when comparing the average yearly figures.

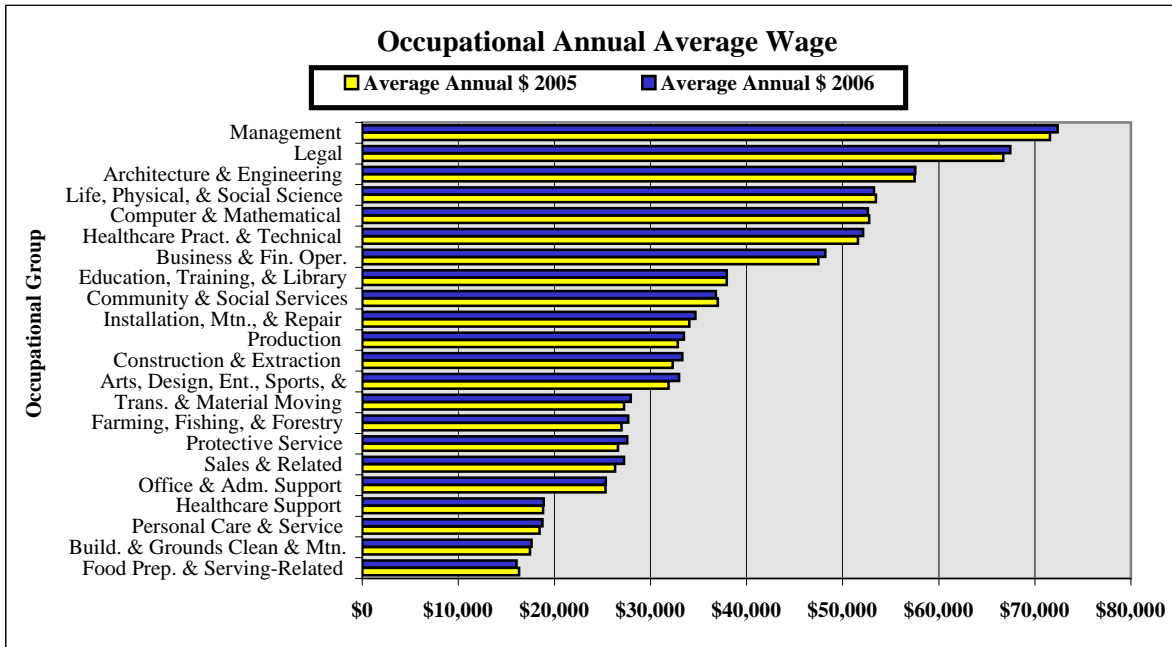
The only service providing sector to show an increase was professional and business services which gained 3,600 jobs on average in 2005. Government saw a decline of 8,200, with local government accounting for 6,300 of that total. Trade, transportation and utilities declined by 6,300, as retail trade dropped by 4,400. Leisure and hospitality declined by 6,100 jobs, with 3,300 jobs lost in food services and drinking places.

In 2006, the dynamic employment shifts caused by the hurricanes led to some unexpected results. The professional and business services sector, which encompasses the legal profession, accounting, and employment services among others, had reached an all time series high in the months preceding the storms, reaching over 194,000 in April 2005. The sector only saw a small decline because of the hurricanes, and by the end of 2006, had reached a new record high of 198,900 jobs. Construction, the one cell where we would have expected large growth, has not disappointed, showing a tally of 135,300 in December 2006, the highest figure in series history, nearly 14,000 more jobs than the pre storm era.

The 2006 annual average data figures show a sharp decline in employment from 2005. The 2006 figure of 1,856,500 is 35,300 less than the 2005 annual number, and 61,000 less than the 2004 figure. The two main sectors, goods producing and service providing, could not be any more different. Thanks to record high levels in construction, the goods producing sector gained 17,200 jobs compared to 2005. Construction rose by 13,400 jobs from 2005, and 15,800 from the 2004 total. Service providing, however, lost 52,500 jobs from 2005. The primary reason was a decline in government of 26,100, with local government losing 14,600 jobs. A large decline of 13,300 was seen in leisure and hospitality, fueled by a 4,700 loss in both food services and drinking places as well as accommodations. Educational and health care services fell by 11,400 with health care declining by 6,600. Only two super sectors showed an increase in the 2006 annual average figures: Trade, transportation and utilities had a slight increase of 200 jobs, while professional and business services showed an increase of 6,000 jobs from 2005, and a gain of 9,600 from 2004.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have left an indelible mark on the state, effects that will take years to overcome. Some jobs have returned, but it is impossible to determine when the state will return to the record employment levels witnessed before August 2005.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link  
[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Average Annual \$ 2005	Average Annual \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	16,305	16,053
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	17,456	17,602
Personal Care & Service	18,463	18,745
Healthcare Support	18,810	18,885
Office & Adm. Support	25,312	25,349
Sales & Related	26,328	27,235
Protective Service	26,603	27,585
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	26,974	27,680
Trans. & Material Moving	27,245	27,932
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	31,882	32,968
Construction & Extraction	32,305	33,314
Production	32,828	33,481
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	34,040	34,683
Community & Social Services	37,017	36,819
Education, Training, & Library	37,946	37,939
Business & Fin. Oper.	47,467	48,200
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	51,602	52,120
Computer & Mathematical	52,768	52,638
Life, Physical, & Social Science	53,457	53,258
Architecture & Engineering	57,476	57,536
Legal	66,704	67,449
Management	71,586	72,372

The Louisiana annual average wage for 2006 ranged from \$72,232 in Management to \$16,053 in Food Preparation & Serving Related occupations. Survey result was reported by the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) & Wage program. The largest positive change over the year occurred in Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media, up \$1,086 from 2005. The lowest paid wages were consistent throughout the state, with Food Preparation and Serving-Related occupations at the end point. Overall, the occupational group reporting higher annual average wages than the United States were Farming, Fishing and Forestry, solely due to the New Orleans region of the state. The highest paid occupation at the state level was Obstetricians and Gynecologists, while the lowest paid occupation was Cooks, Fast Food. Evidence of the storm-related wages due to hurricane recovery wasn't fully captured in this survey round, but is expected with the next release in 2008. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

## Statewide

Table JVS 1

## By Occupational Group

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	357	908	2,055	1.2	3.2	7.6
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	497	247	732	3.5	1.6	4.0
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2,161	1,880	6,956	3.5	3.0	11.1
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	830	1,524	4,184	1.6	2.8	7.8
Community and Social Services Occupations	225	373	1,256	1.0	1.5	5.1
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	542	311	1,552	3.1	1.6	8.1
Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,022	5,194	14,601	3.4	4.5	13.1
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	640	1,478	2,535	0.6	1.3	2.3
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	180	83	312	2.7	1.3	6.4
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	6,659	6,575	13,448	4.0	4.0	8.3
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	2,884	3,121	7,278	2.8	2.9	6.6
Healthcare Support Occupations	1,615	1,518	3,016	3.1	2.9	5.7
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	3,598	4,969	11,345	3.9	5.3	12.0
Legal Occupations	101	84	219	1.0	0.6	1.6
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	143	404	410	1.1	3.1	3.3
Management Occupations	1,904	1,823	710	1.8	1.9	0.7
Military	0	0	4	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	712	282	1,892	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	5,649	6,227	12,345	1.9	2.0	4.0
Personal Care and Service Occupations	3,208	2,458	7,178	6.6	4.6	13.6
Production Occupations	3,862	2,466	9,704	3.1	2.0	7.6
Protective Service Occupations	851	2,445	1,552	1.5	4.6	3.0
Sales and Related Occupations	11,547	4,963	10,852	6.2	2.6	5.4
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	6,723	6,039	11,213	4.6	4.0	7.1
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>58,911</b>	<b>55,371</b>	<b>125,349</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

## Statewide

**Table JVS 2**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	5,127	3,950	12,948	4.0	3.0	9.1
Education & Health Services	8,080	8,795	17,250	1.8	1.9	4.2
Financial Activities	7,055	3,352	5,885	7.0	3.4	6.3
Information	1,530	560	1,141	4.8	1.7	3.7
Leisure & Hospitality	10,394	9,397	16,636	5.0	4.2	8.5
Manufacturing	3,269	3,401	7,598	2.1	2.2	5.0
Natural Resources & Mining	1,093	1,908	2,041	2.0	3.5	3.7
Other Services	3,789	3,574	10,633	7.1	6.9	22.6
Professional & Business Services	5,028	6,590	20,197	2.7	3.4	10.2
Public Administration	0	4,035	2,237	NA	3.9	2.3
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	13,547	9,811	24,526	3.4	2.5	6.4
Unclassified	NA	NA	4,258	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>58,911</b>	<b>55,371</b>	<b>125,349</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

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**Statewide**

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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 58,911 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.4 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were nearly three and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (13,547) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 1), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in sales and related with 11,547 (Table JVS 2). Approximately 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Louisiana employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 70 percent of the vacancies. Nearly half of all job vacancies paid wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; truck drivers, heavy or tractor trailer; cashiers; waiters and waitresses; and customer service representatives. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

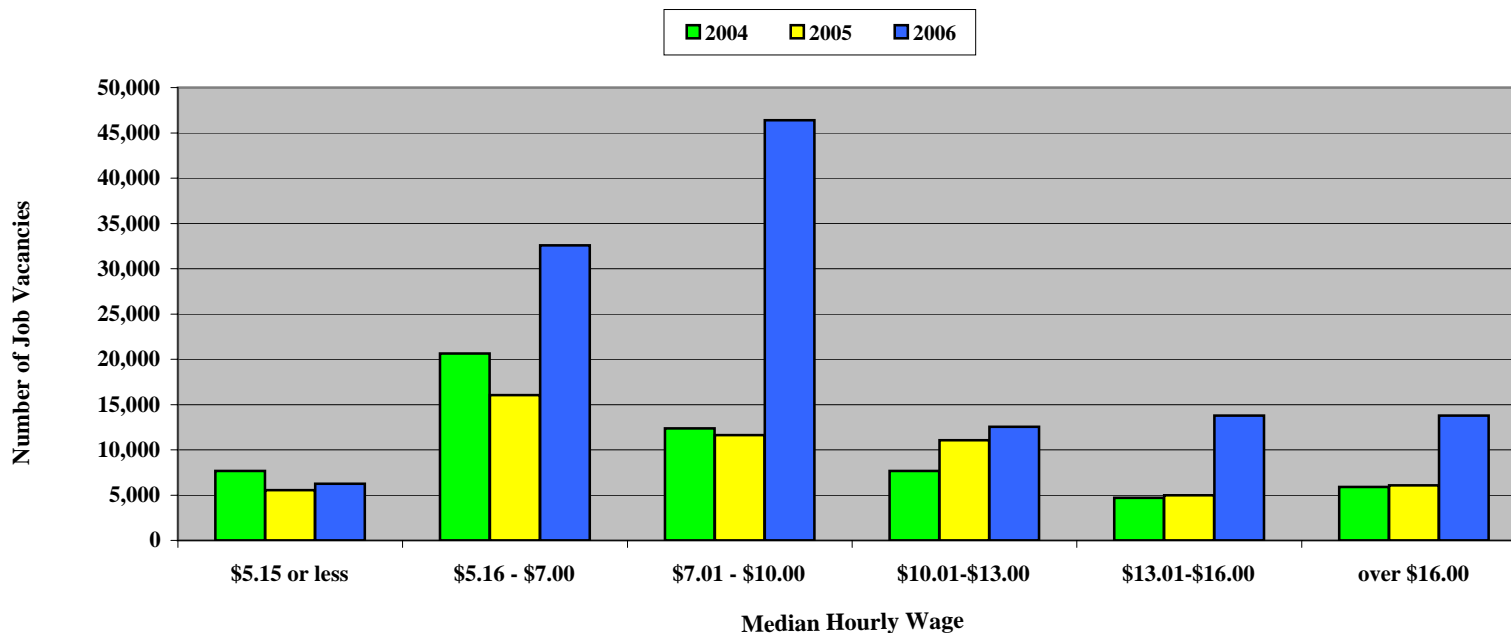
In comparison, there were 55,371 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.9 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (9,811) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 2), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in food preparation and serving-related with 6,575 (Table JVS 1). Around 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Louisiana employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly more than 60 percent of the job vacancies. Almost 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; police and sheriff's patrol officers; waiters and waitresses; and customer service representatives. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 125,349 job vacancies reported resulting in a 6.9 percent vacancy rate. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately seven vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (24,526) was in trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 2), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in construction and extraction with 14,601 (Table JVS 1). Over 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Louisiana employers were looking for some type of work experience in 65 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly over 30 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; construction laborers; cashiers; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; and waiters and waitresses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people that wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted. The number of job vacancies in Regional Labor Market Area 1 (RLMA 1), the New Orleans region, was 48 percent of all vacancies reported.

The number of job vacancies reported declined by 6 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 126 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the state. Consistently through all three years, trade, transportation and utilities was the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies. The occupational group with the largest number of vacancies changes from year to year. The educational requirements and job experience remained fairly consent. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 1 when the range of \$7.01 to \$10.00 increased from approximately 20 percent of the job vacancies to slightly over 35 percent of the job vacancies. Based on the number of job vacancies, this was just under 35,000 more jobs paying \$7.01 to 10.00 per hour. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

Louisiana Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results

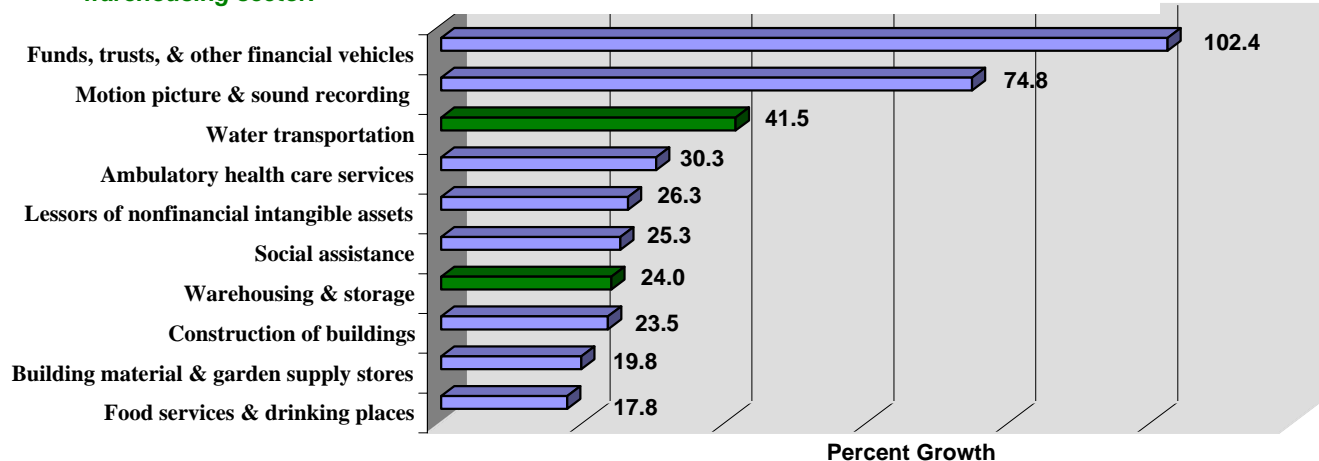
Figure JVS 1





## Industries Adding the Most Jobs by Percent Increase

*Of Louisiana's fastest growing industries by percent, two are in the transportation and warehousing sector.*



Louisiana is projected to add 123,167 workers to the state's payrolls by 2014; this translates to an overall state percent increase of 6.1 percent above the 2004 employment level.

The industry sectors adding the most workers by percent growth represented very diversified industry classifications. Transportation and warehousing included water transportation and warehousing and storage in the top ten industries for long term projected growth. These workers will be hired by water freight and passenger transportation services as well as refrigerated and farm products warehousing to name a few.

The fastest growing industry by percent, funds, trust, and other financial vehicles, will need 430 workers for companies that maintain pension funds, health and welfare funds as well as investment trust accounts. As baby boomers retire, they will be looking for experienced advice for a sound financial future after retirement.

Louisiana's tax incentive programs to jump start the motion picture industry in the state has resulted in this industry's growth in the top fastest growing industries. Approximately 2,638 workers will be needed by 2014 for an increase of 74.8 percent.

The ambulatory and health care services will increase by 30.3 percent by 2014. This industry was also in the top ten by numeric growth with a need for 22,198 workers in the coming years.

Construction of buildings was anticipated to need an additional 5,319 workers by 2014. Given the amount of reconstruction needed after the hurricanes, this projection figure has almost been reached already. Preliminary nonfarm employment levels for the state have this industry employment at 27,800.

The projections employment growth trends were positive in fourteen of the major industry sectors for the state reflecting the need for workers throughout all economic sectors in the state.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

## Occupations Adding the Most Jobs Annually

Occupational Code	Occupational Title	Annual Total Openings 2004 - 2014	State Annual Average Wage	Minimum Educational Requirements
41-2011	Cashiers	3,330	\$14,460	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,660	\$20,950	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,190	\$14,750	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,830	\$50,950	Associate degree
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,320	\$19,490	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	1,160	\$14,110	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,110	\$79,220	Wk Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher degree
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	950	\$13,780	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	890	\$18,700	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
37-2011	Housekeeping Cleaners	850	\$16,450	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	800	\$37,910	Bachelor's degree
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	770	\$13,500	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	740	\$22,770	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	730	\$18,780	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	700	\$15,880	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	690	\$46,280	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
49-9042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	640	\$27,780	Long-term Tng. & Exp.
43-3071	Tellers	630	\$19,890	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	630	\$23,490	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
39-9011	Child Care Workers	620	\$14,460	Short-term Tng. & Exp.

Louisiana's future occupational needs by annual growth listed above are from the list of the top 25 fastest growing occupations by annual demand.

As with prior projections cashiers and retail salespersons are leading this list. This is explained by the nature of the retail industry. Stores are extending their hours in an effort to be more economically competitive. This in turn requires double the manpower to staff stores that are open twelve to twenty-four hours a day. These job opening serve as an early learning tool to first time job seekers as they are hired and learn the skills to keep and advance in a work environment.

The top professional occupation's earning potential in the list are registered nurses, general and operations managers and elementary school teachers. Each one of these occupations is in high demand in the future and also offer career advancement for workers already in these fields.

Thirteen of the top 25 fastest growing occupations required minimal training. Laborers, office clerks, nursing aides, bank tellers, and stock clerks all serve as entry-level jobs for those beginning their work experience. Many of these positions will enable individuals to work up within a company earning higher wages.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp)

## Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth

Occupational Code	Occupational Title	10 Year New Job Growth	10 Year % Job Growth	Average Annual Statewide Wage	Minimum Educational Requirements
27-2011	Actors	1,210	70.8%	NA	Long-term Tng. & Exp.
31-1011	<b>Home Health Aides</b> <b>Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts</b>	2,930	42.2%	\$16,380	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
15-1081	<b>Analysts</b>	890	39.4%	\$48,380	Bachelor's degree
31-9092	<b>Medical Assistants</b>	1,980	38.7%	\$20,940	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
29-1071	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	160	35.6%	\$50,840	Bachelor's degree
31-2021	<b>Physical Therapist Assistants</b>	270	33.8%	\$39,130	Associate degree
15-1031	<b>Computer Software Engineers, Applications</b> <b>Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software</b>	540	32.3%	\$61,340	Bachelor's degree
15-1032	<b>Software</b>	360	32.1%	\$68,650	Bachelor's degree
29-2021	<b>Dental Hygienists</b>	490	31.6%	\$49,670	Associate degree
17-2031	<b>Biomedical Engineers</b>	50	31.3%	\$58,820	Bachelor's degree
31-9091	<b>Dental Assistants</b>	960	30.7%	\$24,640	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
15-1071	Administrators	420	30.7%	\$50,390	Bachelor's degree
53-5031	Ship Engineers	630	30.6%	\$55,680	Postsecondary voc.
15-1061	<b>Database Administrators</b>	130	30.2%	\$56,330	Bachelor's degree
29-2032	<b>Diagnostic Medical Sonographers</b>	260	29.9%	\$51,140	Associate degree
19-4092	Forensic Science Technicians	20	28.6%	\$38,310	Associate degree
31-2022	<b>Physical Therapist Aides</b>	260	28.0%	\$18,120	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
29-1123	<b>Physical Therapists</b>	620	27.7%	\$70,740	Master's degree
27-3091	Interpreters and Translators	30	27.3%	\$44,410	Long-term Tng. & Exp.
29-1122	<b>Occupational Therapists</b>	310	26.7%	\$63,370	Bachelor's degree

The list above highlights Louisiana's future occupational needs by percent growth from the list of the top 25 fastest growing occupations on the agency's web site at the following address:

([http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_OccTopGrowth.asp?years=20042014](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_OccTopGrowth.asp?years=20042014)).

< In blue are eleven of the top occupations that are in medical related fields. As the industry projections also revealed many of the occupations can be tied to the ambulatory health care services industry sector. The home health care occupational group can serve as an entry occupation into the medical fields for workers who want higher paying professional careers with increased education and training.

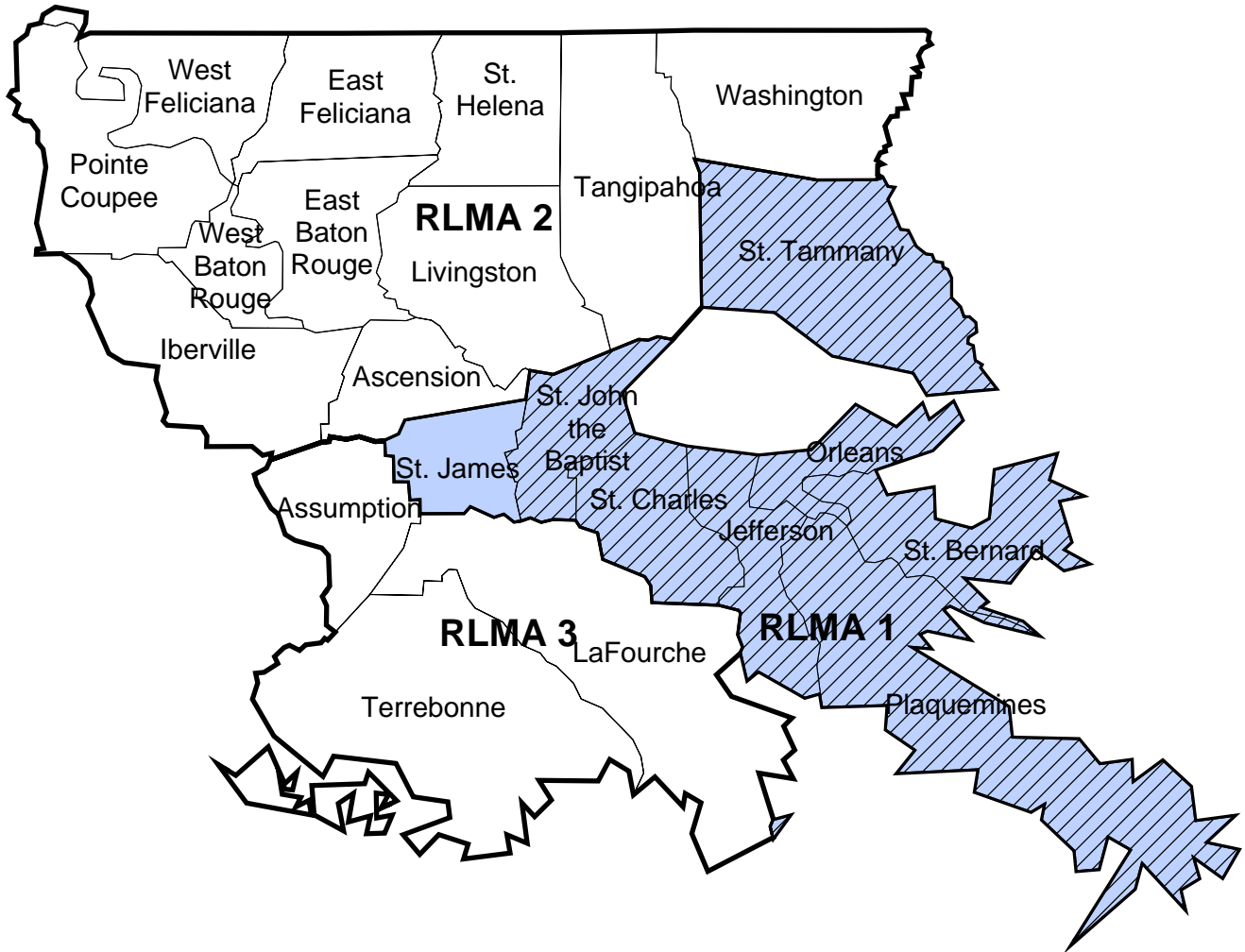
< Three of the highest paying occupations in this top group are occupations related to the computer services industries. As global competition sets the course for the future of Louisiana's workers, it will become more and more important that employers use the latest available software and technology to keep up with security issues. Workers will also have to become more computer literate as jobs evolve to keep up with market competition. Occupations in the computer related fields paid almost as much as physical therapists.

< Actors had the largest percent increase in employment due to the growth in recent years of the film industry in Louisiana. This industry is expected to keep growing as the state promotes tax advantages to its industry leaders.

< The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

# Louisiana

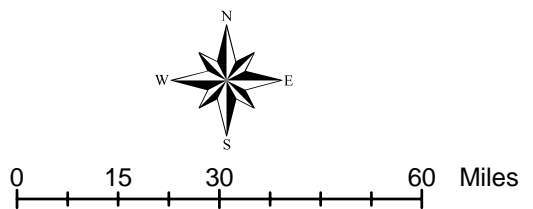
## Regional Labor Market Area 1 and New Orleans - Metairie - Kenner MSA



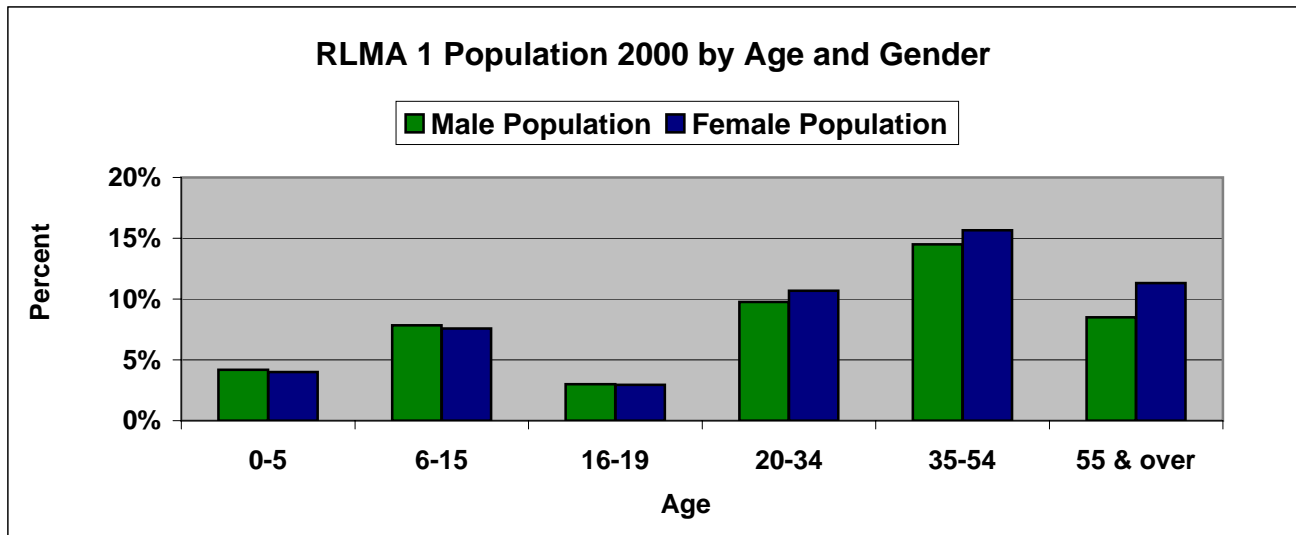
### Legend

- RLMA 1
- New Orleans - Metairie - Kenner MSA

Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
 Research and Statistics GIS Program  
 August 2007



Regional Labor Market Area 1: Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and St. Tammany Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

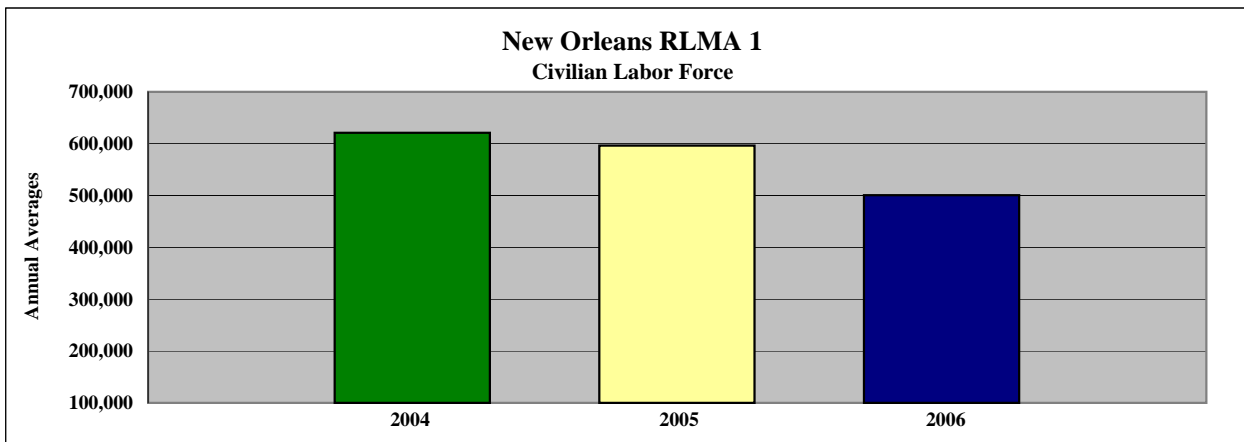
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 1	1,337,726	109,713	206,511	79,590	273,477	403,385	265,050
Males	639,551	56,147	105,025	40,175	130,682	193,874	113,648
Females	698,175	53,566	101,486	39,415	142,795	209,511	151,402

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 1	100%	8%	15%	6%	20%	30%	20%
Males	48%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	8%
Females	52%	4%	8%	3%	11%	16%	11%

The Regional Labor Market Area 1 (RLMA 1) population in 2000 had 48 percent males and 52 percent females, reflecting a similar distribution of the population by gender as the statewide totals. The percentage of males and females remained the same from birth to age 19 and then the percentage of females began to increase. Twenty to 34 year olds had 1 percent more females than males. The female population aged 35 to 54 had 2 percent more than the male population for that age group. The margin increased to 3 percent more females than males aged 55 and over for RLMA 1.

Regional Labor Market Area 1

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
<b>JEFFERSON</b>	225,027	4.5%	217,359	7.9%	181,505	5.0%
<b>ORLEANS</b>	196,310	5.5%	181,814	6.2%	154,041	4.7%
<b>PLAQUEMINES</b>	11,555	5.1%	11,022	7.2%	9,246	4.8%
<b>ST. BERNARD</b>	30,624	5.0%	28,431	5.1%	23,991	3.1%
<b>ST. CHARLES</b>	23,999	4.9%	23,996	10.1%	19,583	5.2%
ST. JAMES	8,787	9.2%	9,033	9.9%	8,340	5.9%
<b>ST. JOHN</b>	20,525	6.4%	20,744	12.1%	16,959	7.4%
<b>ST. TAMMANY</b>	104,188	4.0%	103,866	7.5%	86,662	4.5%



The New Orleans Regional Labor Market Area was the largest and most populated area of the state, prior to Hurricane Katrina. The occurrence of Katrina caused a downward spiral in the labor market conditions for the area. The civilian labor force for the region declined yearly from 2004 to 2006. St. James and St. John are the only parishes that did experience some growth in their labor force from 2004 to 2005, however all areas saw declines in their 2006 labor force. Orleans and St. Bernard parishes had the largest decreases, losing about 22 percent of their labor force from 2004 to 2006. The average loss in labor force experienced from 2004 to 2005 was around 25,000 compared with about 96,000 from 2005 to 2006. Some recovery has occurred, but it has been relatively slow. This region was the primary factor to the record high unemployment levels and rates seen in the state. Some of the areas saw unemployment rate changes over five percentage points. St. John parish experienced the largest unemployment rate at 12.1 percent, followed by St. Charles at 10.1 percent. In addition to having record high unemployment rates, the labor force for the two most populous areas, Jefferson & Orleans, dipped to all-time lows from 2005 to 2006. The labor market conditions and recovery efforts for the New Orleans region will be observed continually for future happenings.

**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 include all persons age 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.

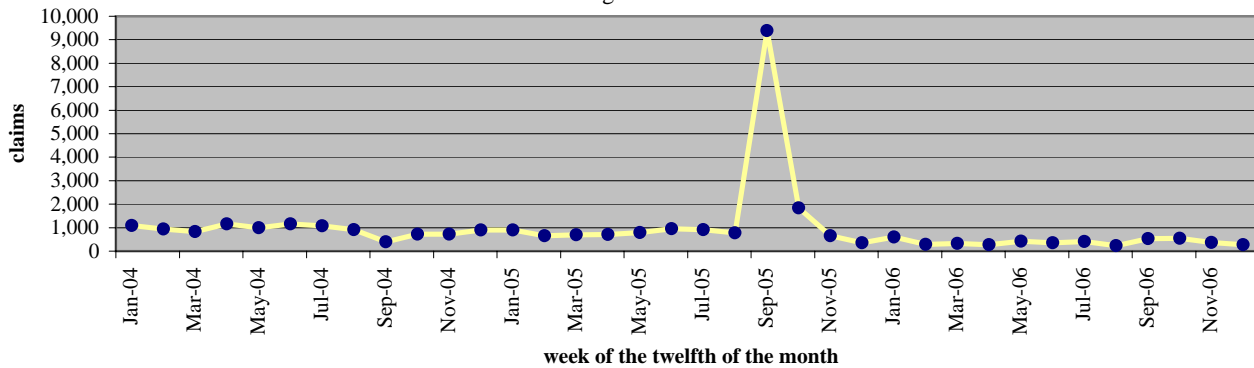
\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 1

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 1</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>9,197</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>13,885</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>4,688</b>
<b>JEFFERSON</b>	285	2,991	511	4,383	126	1,706
<b>ORLEANS</b>	361	3,485	343	3,505	107	1,077
<b>PLAQUEMINES</b>	15	150	37	311	6	83
<b>ST. BERNARD</b>	45	468	58	483	2	44
<b>ST. CHARLES</b>	34	347	149	1,261	25	311
<b>ST. JAMES</b>	29	309	47	436	22	215
<b>ST. JOHN</b>	45	486	146	1,387	39	477
<b>ST. TAMMANY</b>	94	960	263	2,120	59	775

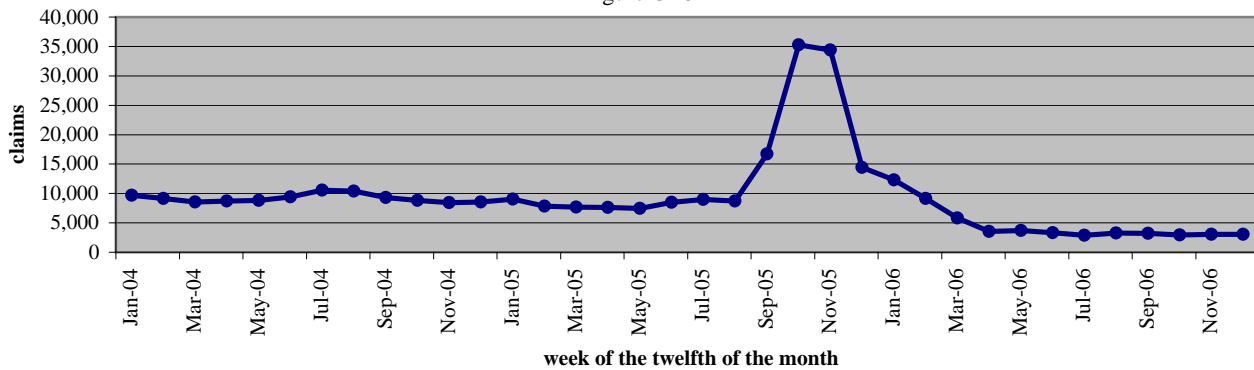
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 7



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 8



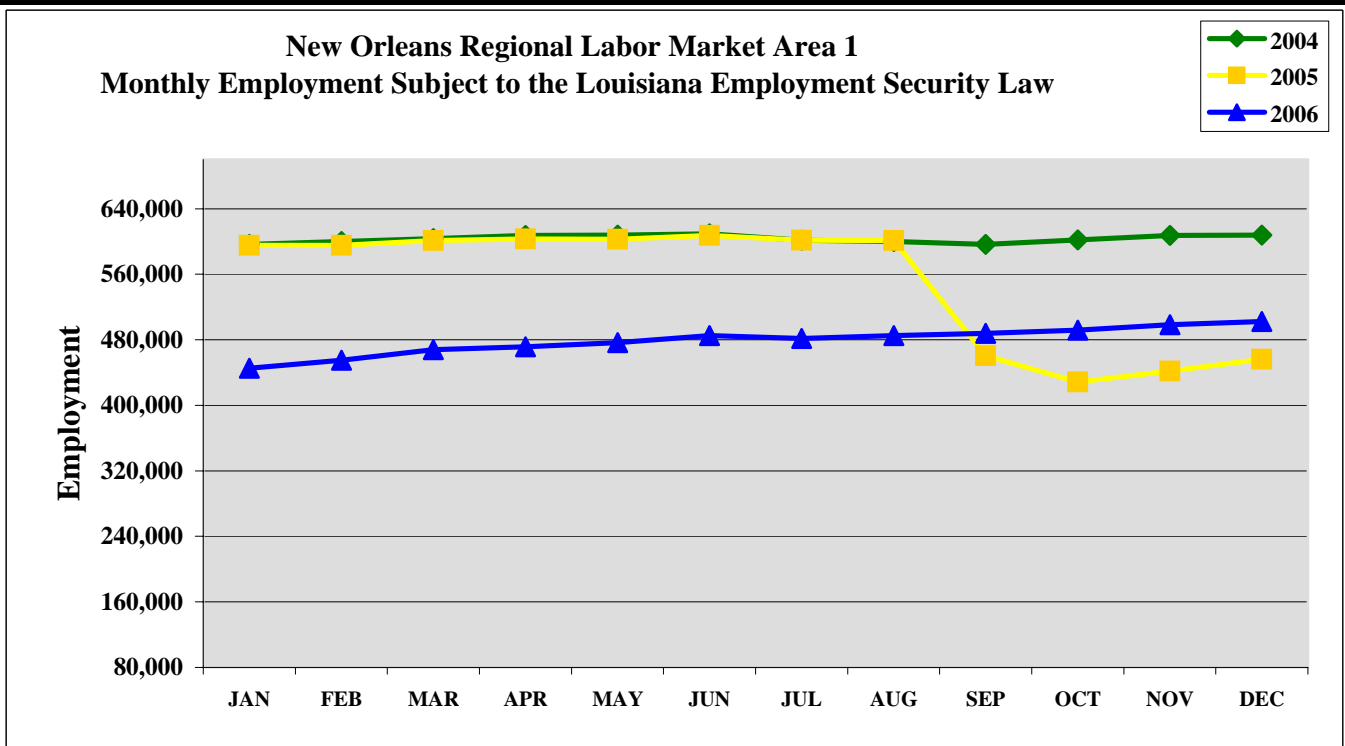
\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 1 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the New Orleans RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 1). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the New Orleans MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 1 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 7 and UI 8 indicate the number of claims in the New Orleans RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The New Orleans RLMA was second only to the Baton Rouge RLMA with the largest number of unemployment insurance claims as a result of the 2005 hurricane season. Initial Claims increased from 779 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 9,389 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in November 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 8,732 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 35,249 claims for the same week in October 2005. In February 2006, they had returned to their pre-storm level but continued to fall. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 3,057 claims for the week of the twelfth. St. Charles and St. John parishes had the largest percentage increases in annual average weekly claims due to the storms while St. Bernard parish had the largest percentage drop in annual average weekly claims after unemployment insurance activity stabilized (Table UI 1).

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).





The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment fell by 124,242 or 20.6 percent (Table 2 Employment). However, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 1.0 percent and 23.0 percent, respectively. Clean up of hurricane related debris and reconstruction in the areas affected by the hurricane played a major role in the changes in employment, units, and wages after the hurricanes. Employment decreased in 4 of the 8 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 12.9 percent in St. John the Baptist parish, to the greatest decrease of 55.7 percent in St. Bernard parish. The construction sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 590 units, a 21.1 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in mining with an increase of \$329, a 21.6 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to

[www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).

## Table 2 Units

## RLMA 1 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>36,558</b>	<b>36,531</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>37,622</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>36,909</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	122	116	-4.9%	116	0.0%	115	-0.9%	-0.9%	
Mining	288	264	-8.3%	267	1.1%	271	1.5%	2.7%	
Utilities	121	118	-2.5%	118	0.0%	121	2.5%	2.5%	
Construction	2,828	2,796	-1.1%	2,957	5.8%	3,386	14.5%	21.1%	
Manufacturing	1,226	1,168	-4.7%	1,166	-0.2%	1,126	-3.4%	-3.6%	
Wholesale Trade	2,903	2,894	-0.3%	2,929	1.2%	2,896	-1.1%	0.1%	
Retail Trade	4,948	5,006	1.2%	5,073	1.3%	4,726	-6.8%	-5.6%	
Transportation & Warehousing	1,282	1,262	-1.6%	1,305	3.4%	1,301	-0.3%	3.1%	
Information	572	575	0.5%	598	4.0%	562	-6.0%	-2.3%	
Finance & Insurance	2,339	2,359	0.9%	2,432	3.1%	2,367	-2.7%	0.3%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,566	1,588	1.4%	1,628	2.5%	1,557	-4.4%	-2.0%	
Professional & Technical Services	4,431	4,383	-1.1%	4,535	3.5%	4,563	0.6%	4.1%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	165	182	10.3%	194	6.6%	186	-4.1%	2.2%	
Administrative & Waste Services	2,096	2,076	-1.0%	2,157	3.9%	2,191	1.6%	5.5%	
Educational Services	346	333	-3.8%	350	5.1%	352	0.6%	5.7%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,325	3,383	1.7%	3,466	2.5%	3,296	-4.9%	-2.6%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	530	541	2.1%	551	1.8%	519	-5.8%	-4.1%	
Accommodation & Food Services	2,981	3,032	1.7%	3,193	5.3%	3,031	-5.1%	0.0%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	3,590	3,553	-1.0%	3,508	-1.3%	3,183	-9.3%	-10.4%	
Public Administration	488	478	-2.0%	481	0.6%	483	0.4%	1.0%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 36,531 (Table 2 Units), down 0.1 percent compared to 36,558 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 5,006 and the smallest number of annual average units was found in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector with 116.

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 37,622 (Table 2 Units), up 3.0 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 5,073 and the smallest number of annual average units 116 was found in agriculture, forest sector.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 36,909 (Table 2 Units), down 1.9 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade 4,726 and the smallest number of annual average units 115 was found in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector.

## Table 2 Employment

## RLMA 1 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	Percent	<u>2005</u>	Percent	<u>2006</u>	Percent	<u>2004 to 2006</u>
			Change		Change		Change	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>600,039</b>	<b>602,160</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>548,245</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>	<b>477,918</b>	<b>-12.8%</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	689	633	-8.1%	590	-6.8%	541	-8.3%	-14.5%
Mining	9,175	8,651	-5.7%	8,371	-3.2%	8,295	-0.9%	-4.1%
Utilities	5,172	5,076	-1.9%	4,927	-2.9%	4,317	-12.4%	-15.0%
Construction	33,396	32,783	-1.8%	30,395	-7.3%	33,610	10.6%	2.5%
Manufacturing	41,704	41,273	-1.0%	39,039	-5.4%	37,210	-4.7%	-9.8%
Wholesale Trade	26,742	26,289	-1.7%	24,584	-6.5%	22,970	-6.6%	-12.6%
Retail Trade	68,174	69,464	1.9%	61,182	-11.9%	56,596	-7.5%	-18.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	29,414	28,963	-1.5%	27,343	-5.6%	24,452	-10.6%	-15.6%
Information	10,361	10,995	6.1%	10,039	-8.7%	7,883	-21.5%	-28.3%
Finance & Insurance	23,485	22,765	-3.1%	20,482	-10.0%	17,580	-14.2%	-22.8%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	11,765	11,746	-0.2%	10,530	-10.4%	8,488	-19.4%	-27.7%
Professional & Technical Services	29,279	30,247	3.3%	28,282	-6.5%	28,396	0.4%	-6.1%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	7,834	8,136	3.9%	7,996	-1.7%	6,932	-13.3%	-14.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	37,333	37,235	-0.3%	34,493	-7.4%	31,970	-7.3%	-14.1%
Educational Services	53,926	54,390	0.9%	48,887	-10.1%	37,420	-23.5%	-31.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	79,023	79,625	0.8%	72,245	-9.3%	55,482	-23.2%	-30.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	15,525	15,701	1.1%	13,984	-10.9%	10,612	-24.1%	-32.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	67,497	69,357	2.8%	60,553	-12.7%	48,275	-20.3%	-30.4%
Other Services, except Public Administration	18,134	17,818	-1.7%	14,973	-16.0%	12,362	-17.4%	-30.6%
Public Administration	30,676	30,322	-1.2%	28,443	-6.2%	23,632	-16.9%	-22.1%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 602,160 in the New Orleans RLMA (Table 2 Employment), an increase of 0.4 percent when compared to 600,039 in 2003. Employment in 5 of the 8 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 6.2 percent in St. Charles parish, to the largest decrease of 1.8 percent in St. James parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the New Orleans RLMA with 79,625 employees, or 13.2 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 104,018, or 17.3 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 15,964 (2.7 percent); state workers averaged 24,323 (4.0 percent); and local government workers averaged 63,731 (10.6 percent), while the private sector made up 82.7 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 548,245 (Table 2 Employment), a decrease of 9.0 percent when compared to 602,160 in 2004. This decrease was primarily due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina. Employment in 6 of the 8 parishes decreased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 4.0 percent in St. James parish, to the greatest decrease of 19.6 percent in St. Bernard parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the New Orleans RLMA with 72,245 employees, or 13.2 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 96,730, or 17.6 percent of total employment, which was slightly down from 2004. Federal workers averaged 15,394 (2.8 percent); state workers averaged 22,640 (4.1 percent); and local government workers averaged 58,696 (10.7 percent), while the private sector made up 82.4 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 477,918 (Table 2 Employment), a decrease of 12.8 percent when compared to 548,245 in 2005. This decrease was a result of the slow restoration of the hurricane-damaged areas. Employment in 5 of the 8 parishes decreased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 10.2 percent in St. John the Baptist parish, to the greatest decrease of 44.9 percent in St. Bernard parish. Retail trade was the leading industry in the New Orleans RLMA with 56,596 employees, or 11.9 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 74,695, or 15.6 percent of total employment, which was down from 2005. Federal workers averaged 12,668 (2.7 percent); state workers averaged 15,765 (3.3 percent); and local government workers averaged 46,262 (9.7 percent), while the private sector made up 84.4 percent of employment.

Table 2 Wage - RLMA 1 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change	
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 1</b>	<b>\$639</b>	<b>\$664</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>\$718</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>\$817</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>23.0%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	413	436	5.7%	462	5.9%	513	11.0%	17.6%
Mining	1,481	1,526	3.0%	1,679	10.0%	1,855	10.5%	21.6%
Utilities	1,029	1,107	7.6%	1,193	7.7%	1,133	-5.0%	2.3%
Construction	658	682	3.7%	739	8.4%	890	20.4%	30.5%
Manufacturing	901	951	5.6%	1,021	7.3%	1,100	7.7%	15.6%
Wholesale Trade	845	897	6.1%	995	11.0%	1,124	13.0%	25.4%
Retail Trade	415	420	1.2%	442	5.4%	528	19.5%	25.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	772	817	5.8%	864	5.7%	973	12.6%	19.0%
Information	742	757	2.0%	797	5.3%	903	13.3%	19.3%
Finance & Insurance	850	923	8.5%	1,051	13.9%	1,122	6.8%	21.6%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	575	585	1.8%	640	9.4%	761	18.9%	30.1%
Professional & Technical Services	952	972	2.1%	1,016	4.5%	1,139	12.1%	17.2%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1,039	1,075	3.4%	1,230	14.4%	1,173	-4.6%	9.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	431	469	8.8%	526	12.1%	659	25.3%	40.4%
Educational Services	646	667	3.3%	679	1.8%	713	5.0%	6.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	647	672	3.9%	707	5.2%	802	13.4%	19.4%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	578	588	1.8%	665	13.0%	699	5.1%	18.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	280	287	2.4%	300	4.5%	349	16.3%	21.6%
Other Services, except Public Administration	444	472	6.2%	491	4.0%	582	18.5%	23.3%
Public Administration	730	765	4.8%	818	7.0%	904	10.5%	18.2%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

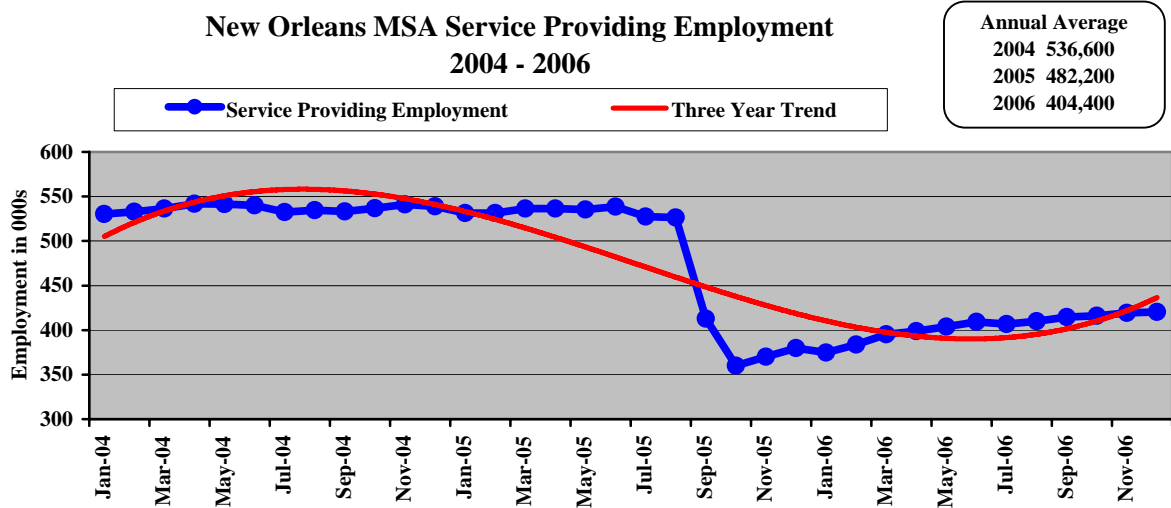
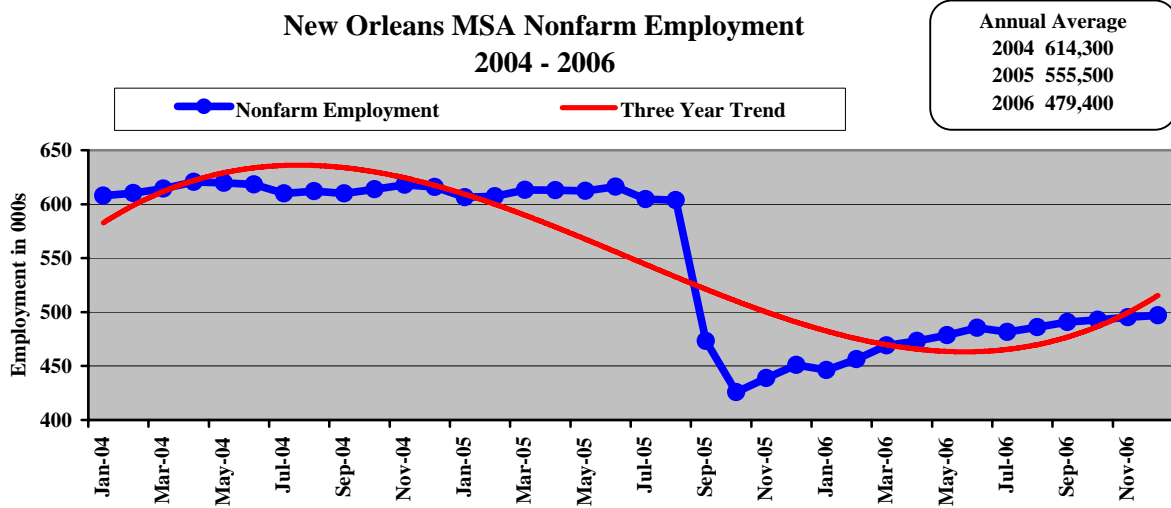
Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$848 million to register a gain of 4.3 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$25 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$664 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,526 in the mining sector to a low of \$287 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 2 Wage. St. Charles parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$862 while St. Tammany parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$549.

Total wages for 2005 decreased approximately \$325 million to register a loss of 1.6 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$718, which was an average increase of \$54 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,679 in the mining sector to a low of \$300 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 2 Wage. St. Charles parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$904 while St. Tammany parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$603.

Total wages for 2006 decreased \$167 million to register a loss of 0.8 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$817, which was an average increase of \$99 from 2005. The mining industry sector (\$1,855) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$349) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 2 Wage. Plaquemines parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$961 and St. Tammany parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$664.

Metropolitan Statistical Area : Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, & St. Tammany Parishes



The New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the largest of the eight Louisiana metropolitan statistical areas. Before the Census Bureau redefined the MSA's structure in 2003, it consisted of eight parishes – Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and St. James. As a result of the redefinition, St. James parish was removed from the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner MSA.

Just as in the U.S., Louisiana and the remaining MSAs, the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner MSA is driven by service providing employment. Also, just as the rest of the state and the MSAs, both the goods producing and service providing supersectors are influenced by factors such as seasonal patterns, start-up and completion of business projects (i.e., new construction, expansion, short-term projects, etc.), normal growth or decline and of course, adverse weather conditions. The effects of these factors tend to be more visible in the sectors and subsectors that fall within the supersectors. In this analysis, the comparison of the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 will be based on the annual averages of each year.

In 2004, the annual average for total nonfarm employment was 614,300 compared to 611,000 in 2003. The goods producing annual averages were 79,800 in 2003 and 77,700 in 2004, reflecting a decline of 2,100 jobs. Most of this loss was in construction and manufacturing. The service providing supersector had an annual average of 531,200 536,600 in 2003 and 2004, respectively. Job growth of 5,400 occurred as several sectors recorded substantial increases. Leisure and hospitality alone added an average of 2,400 jobs in 2004.

The total nonfarm employment level in 2005 was basically consistent with previous years except for a slight decline in the January 2004 to the January 2005 comparison. However, following Hurricane Katrina, over 150,000 jobs were lost. This would account for the 58,800 drop in the annual average from the 2004 figure of 614,300 to the 555,500 annual average for 2005. The annual average for the goods producing employment dipped to 73,300 in 2005 from 77,700 in 2004. The service providing annual average went from 536,600 in 2004 to 482,200 in 2005. All sectors were affected by the devastation of the great storm.

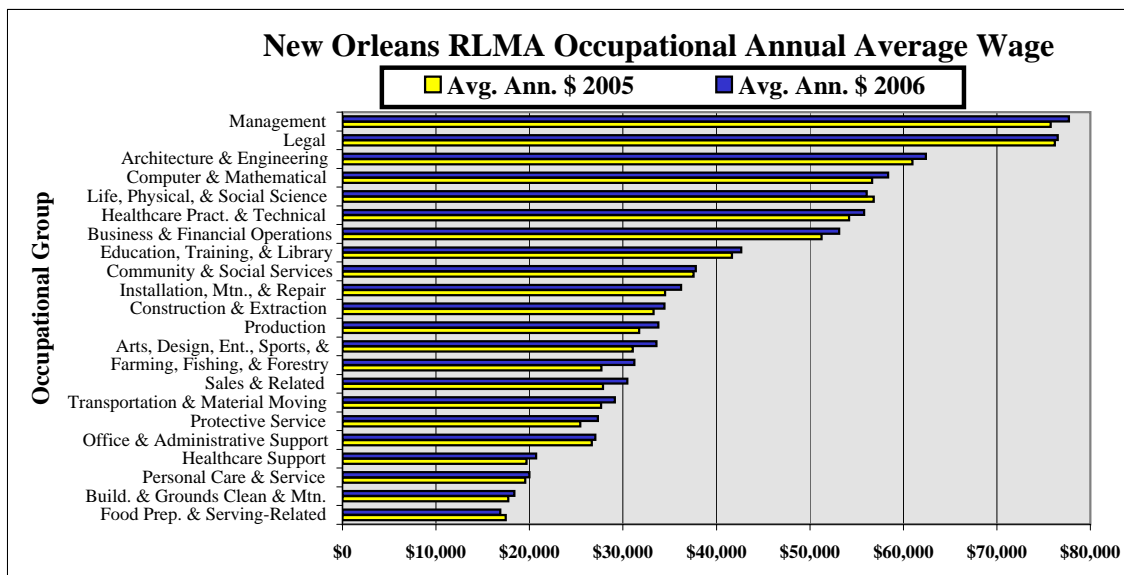
For 2006, the total nonfarm annual average was based on 12 months of post Katrina data. There was a loss of 76,100 jobs when comparing 2005's annual average of 555,500 to 2006's annual average of 479,400. The goods producing figures of 73,300 for 2005 and 75,000 for 2006 actually represented a growth of 1,700 for the supersector. In this instance, the growth was totally in the construction sector, which gained 3,600 based on the yearly average. Manufacturing posted an annual average decline between 2005 and 2006 that offset about half of the expansion in construction. Service providing annual average employment moved down from 482,200 for 2005 to 404,400 for 2006, reflecting a decrease of 77,800. All sectors of service providing attributed to the annual average loss. Notably, the three biggest contractions in employment occurred in government, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality industry supersectors.

Over the three-year period, total employment has seen a definite decline due to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Employment has rebounded some, but is still around 100,000 jobs below the pre-Katrina level. The 2004 annual average total nonfarm level was 614,300, while the 2006 annual average 479,400. The annual average difference in employment was 134,900. Based on the annual average, goods producing dropped 2,700 and service providing plunged 132,200.

In conclusion, the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner MSA experienced a drastic and devastating economic hit. It exceeded the Baton Rouge MSA, the second largest MSA, by about 270,000 positions based on the annual average for 2004. Comparing the annual averages for 2006, the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner MSA only exceeds the Baton Rouge MSA by 116,000 jobs. Prior to Katrina, employment in the MSA was fairly consistent. Following Katrina, beginning around November 2005, employment began to rebound and follow a normal pattern.

Source: The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link  
[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).





Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$17,443	16,882
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$17,740	18,387
Personal Care & Service	\$19,534	19,994
Healthcare Support	\$19,686	20,724
Office & Administrative Support	\$26,670	27,044
Protective Service	\$25,437	27,322
Transportation & Material Moving	\$27,671	29,127
Sales & Related	\$27,856	30,479
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$27,699	31,230
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$31,051	33,590
Production	\$31,748	33,792
Construction & Extraction	\$33,277	34,453
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$34,498	36,229
Community & Social Services	\$37,561	37,788
Education, Training, & Library	\$41,667	42,665
Business & Financial Operations	\$51,241	53,117
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$54,195	55,806
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$56,812	56,070
Computer & Mathematical	\$56,649	58,370
Architecture & Engineering	\$60,958	62,420
Legal	\$76,188	76,506
Management	\$75,750	77,695

New Orleans RLMA, dominated by the trade, transportation, and utilities industry, reported some of the highest wages in the state. The effect of post-hurricane wages weren't easily noted in the 2006 release, due primarily to low survey responses from establishments in the affected areas. Management occupations remained at the top of the pay scale, reporting an increase of \$1,945 annually. In comparison, over the year, the Farming, Fishing and Forestry occupational group has been on a steady increase, up 12.7 percent. Notably, the only two occupational groups that reported a decrease were Food Preparation, and Serving-Related and Life, Physical & Social Science occupations. Severe worker shortages were reported in these fields, as a direct result of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. To date, some recovery has occurred, and should reflect higher wages during future survey collection. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWWORKS.net](http://www.LAWWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

## Regional Labor Market Area 1

Table JVS 3

## By Occupational Group

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	209	400	1,511	1.9	4.0	16.4
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	172	180	149	2.8	2.7	1.7
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	493	854	3,641	2.3	4.1	16.9
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	419	280	2,650	2.1	1.3	13.4
Community and Social Services Occupations	150	116	336	2.0	1.6	4.6
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	94	93	1,014	1.1	1.2	12.4
Construction and Extraction Occupations	869	1,727	5,656	2.8	6.1	19.7
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	375	788	795	1.2	2.4	2.5
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0	0	142	0.0	0.0	21.5
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	3,434	2,287	7,108	5.4	3.6	11.4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	724	1,301	3,510	2.1	3.6	10.2
Healthcare Support Occupations	454	573	1,804	2.6	3.3	10.5
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	1,285	1,787	5,119	4.9	7.0	19.4
Legal Occupations	66	14	71	1.2	0.2	1.2
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	33	352	230	0.6	7.7	5.6
Management Occupations	828	804	409	2.3	2.6	1.2
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	205	194	706	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	1,956	2,320	7,150	1.9	2.1	6.7
Personal Care and Service Occupations	745	1,170	3,688	4.7	6.3	19.8
Production Occupations	1,657	615	3,785	5.2	1.9	11.4
Protective Service Occupations	423	2,273	487	2.4	13.5	2.9
Sales and Related Occupations	5,885	2,102	5,561	9.9	3.4	8.4
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	1,747	1,993	4,252	3.8	4.2	8.7
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>22,222</b>	<b>22,223</b>	<b>59,771</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

Table JVS 4  
By Industry Group

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	825	958	4,717	2.5	3.0	13.6
Education & Health Services	2,808	3,624	6,459	2.1	2.7	7.0
Financial Activities	3,702	1,006	3,764	10.5	3.1	14.6
Information	577	362	747	5.9	3.5	8.9
Leisure & Hospitality	4,669	3,908	8,674	5.7	4.4	14.7
Manufacturing	1,530	1,531	2,984	3.7	3.7	8.2
Natural Resources & Mining	120	215	487	1.2	2.4	5.7
Other Services	1,581	1,033	5,575	8.6	6.0	46.0
Professional & Business Services	1,759	3,508	11,944	2.3	4.5	17.8
Public Administration	0	2,662	579	0.0	8.7	2.4
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	4,651	3,417	11,367	3.6	2.6	10.5
Unclassified	0	0	2,474	0.0	0.0	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>22,222</b>	<b>22,223</b>	<b>59,771</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 1**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 22,222 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.9 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were nearly four vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (4,669) was found in the industry group of leisure and hospitality (Table JVS 4), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in sales and related with 5,885 (Table JVS 3). Approximately 55 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while New Orleans regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 65 percent of the vacancies. Nearly half of all job vacancies paid wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were waiters and waitresses; retail salespersons; cashiers; production worker helpers; and combined food preparation and serving workers. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

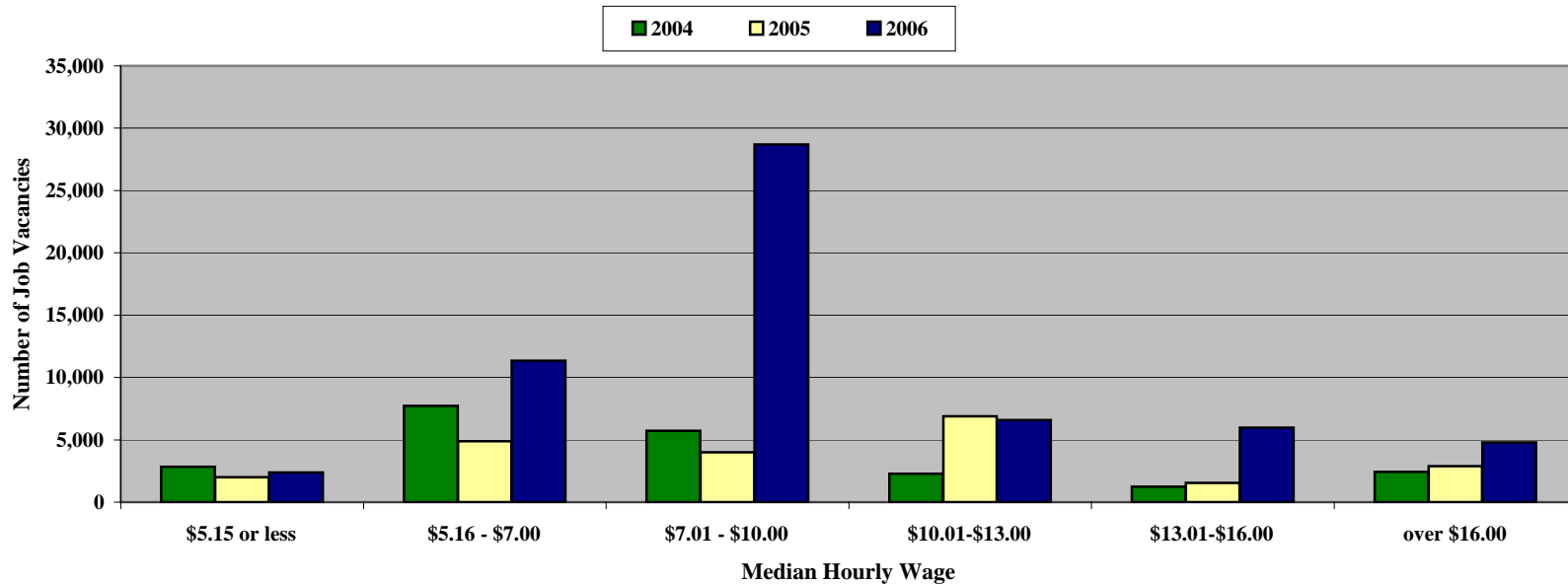
In comparison, there were 22,223 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.7 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately four vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (3,908) was found in the industry group of leisure and hospitality (Table JVS 4), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in office and administrative support with 2,320 (Table JVS 3). Approximately 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while New Orleans regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly more than 55 percent of the job vacancies. A little over 30 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were police and sheriff's patrol officers; electricians; customer service representatives; cashiers; and retail salespersons. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 59,771 job vacancies reported resulting in a 12.5 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately 12 vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (11,944) was in professional and business services (Table JVS 4), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in office and administrative support with 7,150 (Table JVS 3). Over 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while New Orleans regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in 70 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly over 20 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; maids and housekeeping cleaners; wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products; construction laborers; and cashiers. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people that wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted. The number of job vacancies in Regional Labor Market Area 1 (RLMA 1), the New Orleans region, was 48 percent of all vacancies reported in the post-hurricane results.

The number of job vacancies reported held constant from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 169 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricane Katrina. In the vacancy studies of 2004 and 2005, leisure and hospitality was the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies. However, in 2006, professional and business services had the largest number of vacancies and the number of vacancies in leisure and hospitality more than doubled from the previous years. The construction and extraction occupational group had a 550 percent increase in the number of vacancies from 2004 to 2006. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 2 when the range of \$7.01 to \$10.00 increased from approximately 20 percent of the job vacancies to slightly less than 50 percent of the job vacancies. Based on the number of job vacancies, this was just under 25,000 more jobs paying \$7.01 to 10.00 per hour. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

**RLMA 1 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
 2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
 Job Vacancy Survey Results**

Figure JVS 2



Regional Labor Market Area 1 : Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, & St. Tammany

**Projected Employment by Industry 2004 - 2014**

Industry Code	Industry Title	Industry Projections		Employment Change	Covered Employed	Employment Change	Employment Change
		2004	2014	2004 - 2014	2006	2006-2014	2006-2004
541	Professional and technical services	28,989	22,305	-6,684	27,255	4,950	-1,734
561	Administrative and support services	35,143	26,685	-8,458	28,964	2,279	-6,179
<b>238</b>	<b>Specialty trade contractors</b>	<b>17,168</b>	<b>16,122</b>	<b>-1,046</b>	<b>18,050</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>882</b>
<b>444</b>	<b>Building material &amp; garden supply stores</b>	<b>5,007</b>	<b>4,871</b>	<b>-136</b>	<b>6,699</b>	<b>1,828</b>	<b>1,692</b>
524	Insurance carriers and related activities	9,086	5,544	-3,542	7,329	1,785	-1,757
333	Machinery manufacturing	2,244	830	-1,414	2,190	1,360	-54
813	Membership associations & organization	3,564	1,139	-2,425	2,432	1,293	-1,132
713	Amusements, gambling, & recreation	10,156	6,339	-3,817	7,327	988	-2,829
<b>483</b>	<b>Water transportation</b>	<b>2,937</b>	<b>2,754</b>	<b>-183</b>	<b>3,563</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>626</b>
311	Food manufacturing	4,930	3,063	-1,867	3,869	806	-1,061

Industry Projections for the New Orleans region were a challenge to produce after Hurricane Katrina wrecked havoc on the area. The 2004 to 2014 industry projections painted a negative slow recovery period. However, to gain more perspective on what is currently happening in the area, the following comparisons were made:

The ten industries in the chart above have all shown positive gains in employment to the point that the 2006 annual average covered employment levels were higher than the 2014 projected industry levels of employment. All of these industries have played vital roles in the rebuilding of the New Orleans region. Growth in these industries is easily understood:

Professional and technical services employ architectural and engineering services as well as testing labs and geophysical surveying companies and environmental consulting services.

Administrative and support services provide temporary help services and employment placement services. Some of the companies in this industry sector provide services to buildings and dwellings in the form of landscaping, cleaning, and pest control.

Specialty trade contractors formed the backbone to the regional repairs. Workers in this segment are roofers, building contractors, painters, dry wall, tile and many other industry sectors involved in the building of homes and buildings. The industry sectors shown in blue have not only rebounded but have surpassed 2004 pre Katrina employment estimates compared to the latest 2006 covered employment.

Building materials and garden supply stores have added more workers from 2004 to 2006 than any other industry sector. This sector includes home centers, building material dealers, outdoor power equipment, nursery, garden, and hardware stores.

Growth in water transportation reflected how important the New Orleans ports are. This industry sector has employers in deep sea freight transportation, inland water freight transportation and passenger transportation.

Other industries with current 2006 employment levels above the projected 2014 level are insurance carriers, machinery and food manufacturing, membership associations and amusement, gambling and recreation.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

**New Orleans RLMA 1 Occupational Projections [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)**

Regional Labor Market Area 1 : Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, & St. Tammany

<i>Teachers and Medical Workers had the Highest Percent Growth by 2014</i>				
Rank	Occupational Title	10 Year % Job Growth	Average Annual Regional Wage	Minimum Education
15	Instructional Coordinators	2.1%	\$41,834	Master's degree
3	Education Teachers, Postsecondary	14.3%	\$55,144	Doctoral degree
8	Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	5.0%	\$51,900	Doctoral degree
4	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	11.7%	\$51,825	Bachelor's degree
9	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	4.8%	\$67,871	Bachelor's degree
12	Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	3.4%	\$40,993	Bachelor's degree
16	Special Education Teachers, Middle School	1.3%	\$40,329	Bachelor's degree
5	Respiratory Therapists	8.5%	\$45,048	Associate degree
6	Radiation Therapists	8.3%	\$55,401	Associate degree
7	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	6.9%	\$35,338	Associate degree
10	Registered Nurses	3.8%	\$56,583	Associate degree
13	Ship Engineers	3.1%	\$55,643	Postsecondary voc.
14	Surgical Technologists	2.7%	\$35,817	Postsecondary voc.
1	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	17.6%	\$28,636	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
2	Farmworkers, Farm and Ranch Animals	15.6%	\$22,474	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
11	Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	3.6%	\$34,525	Work Exp. in a related occupation

Teachers and medical occupations will have the most long term demand for the New Orleans Region. The chart above ranks the occupations in order by the minimum educational requirements.

Six of the top ranked occupations are in the educational field ranging from preschool teachers to post secondary education teachers. Almost all of the education related occupations require at least a bachelor's degree.

Three of the teaching occupations are in the post secondary school environment. These teachers will be needed at the community colleges, universities, and vocational institutions.

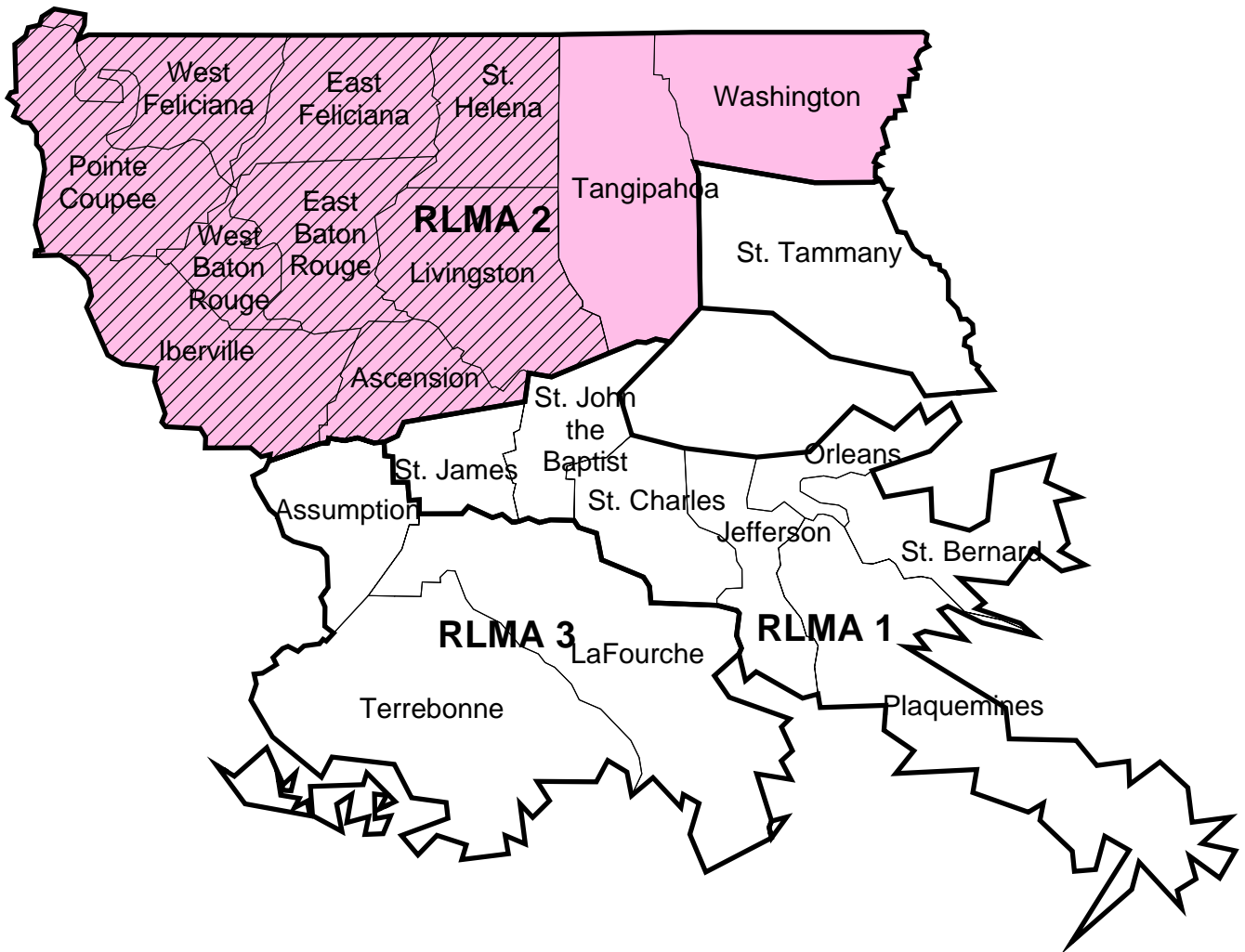
The growing demand for workers needed in the medical field include registered nurses, therapist, technologist and technicians. Most of these positions start out with an associate's degree for the minimum educational requirement. Average annual wages ranged from \$35,338 to \$56,583 depending on training involved.

Many of the regions had occupations in the computer related fields in the high demand group. Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts and Computer Software Engineers, Applications had strong growth in Region 1. Both positions require a bachelor's degree. These occupations also displayed high average regional wages at \$51,825 and \$67,871 respectively.

Hurricane Katrina increased the demand for hazardous materials removal workers for this projections time period. Other miscellaneous occupations in demand are ship engineers because of the port activities and farm workers.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

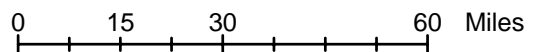
# Louisiana Regional Labor Market Area 2 and Baton Rouge MSA



## Legend

- RLMA 2
- Baton Rouge MSA

Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
 Research and Statistics GIS Program  
 August 2007



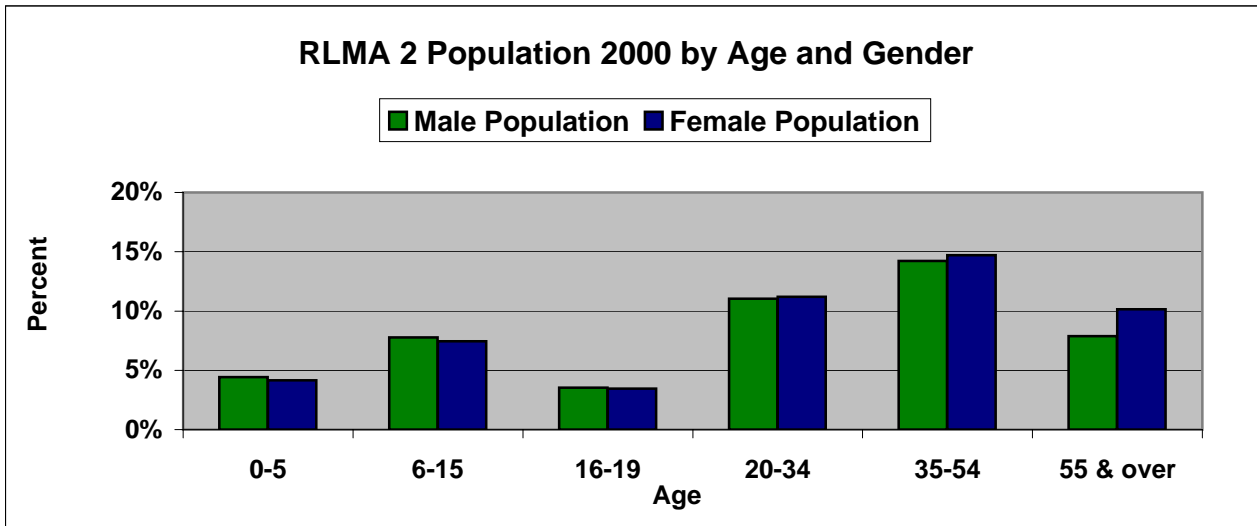


**Baton Rouge RLMA 2**

**Population**

[www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Regional Labor Market Area 2: Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

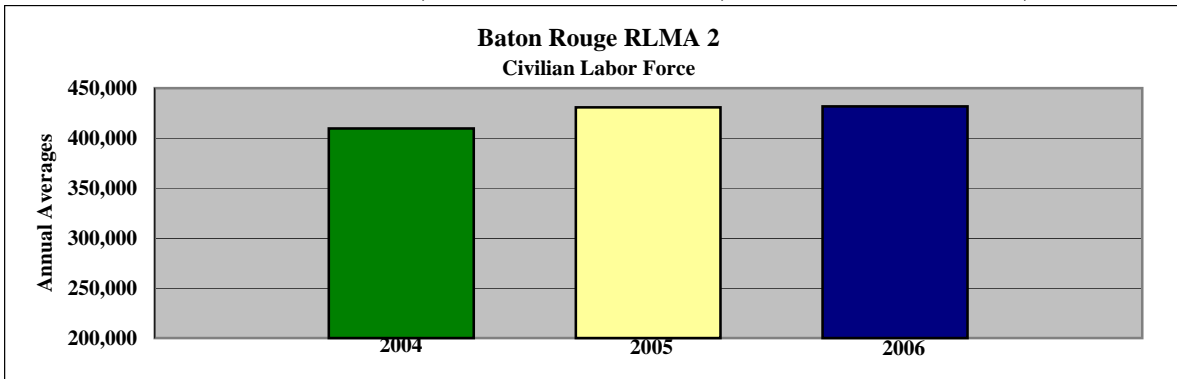
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 2	850,487	72,989	129,507	59,374	189,206	246,101	153,310
Males	415,718	37,578	66,193	30,070	93,947	120,930	67,000
Females	434,769	35,411	63,314	29,304	95,259	125,171	86,310

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 2	100%	8%	15%	7%	22%	29%	18%
Males	49%	4%	8%	4%	11%	14%	8%
Females	51%	4%	7%	3%	11%	15%	10%

Regional Labor Market Area 2 (RLMA 2) population in 2000 showed a male population slightly higher (49 percent) and a female population slightly lower (51 percent) than the statewide population of 2000 (48 percent and 52 percent respectively). Males and females from birth to 5 year olds held an equal percentage amount of the population. There were 1 percent more males than females aged 6 to 19 years old. The female population outnumbered the male population for ages 35 and over with a 1 to 2 percent increase over the male population of the same age group in RLMA 2.

**Regional Labor Market Area 2**

<b>PARISH</b>	<b>2004 Annual Average</b>		<b>2005 Annual Average</b>		<b>2006 Annual Average</b>	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>ASCENSION</b>	42,726	6.1%	45,991	6.1%	46,359	3.6%
<b>E. BATON ROUGE</b>	203,931	5.3%	213,673	6.5%	214,878	3.8%
<b>EAST FELICIANA</b>	7,999	6.7%	8,231	6.3%	8,319	4.1%
<b>IBERVILLE</b>	12,246	8.4%	12,628	8.4%	12,650	5.3%
<b>LIVINGSTON</b>	50,423	6.1%	53,553	5.5%	54,262	3.5%
<b>POINTE COUPEE</b>	9,496	7.0%	9,937	8.3%	9,852	4.2%
<b>ST. HELENA</b>	3,922	6.2%	4,369	13.3%	4,213	6.9%
<b>TANGIPAHOA</b>	47,890	6.4%	50,698	9.1%	50,389	4.4%
<b>WASHINGTON</b>	16,269	7.1%	16,338	9.5%	15,428	5.2%
<b>W. BATON ROUGE</b>	10,217	6.3%	10,490	6.5%	10,537	3.7%
<b>WEST FELICIANA</b>	4,700	6.6%	4,945	7.5%	4,953	4.5%



On average the Baton Rouge RLMA has experienced steady growth in the labor force over the past three years. The labor force has grown by more than 22,000 over this three year period. All parishes in the area registered gains from 2004 to 2005, and continuing into 2006 with the exception of Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, and Washington. East Baton Rouge parish measured an increase in labor force of almost 11,000 from 2004 to 2006. This is the largest increase registered among the parishes in the Baton Rouge region. There was an influx of unemployed persons in the later part of 2005 from storm affected areas. The unemployment increases leveled off in 2006, which can be seen when examining the unemployment rates for 2005 to 2006. St. Helena parish recorded the largest rate increase of 7.4 percent and the largest overall rate of 13.3 percent for this area in 2005. Overall, the Baton Rouge area is continuing to show growth within its labor market. This growth should place Baton Rouge in an ideal position to offer economic expansion and a multitude of employment opportunities.

**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 include all persons age 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.

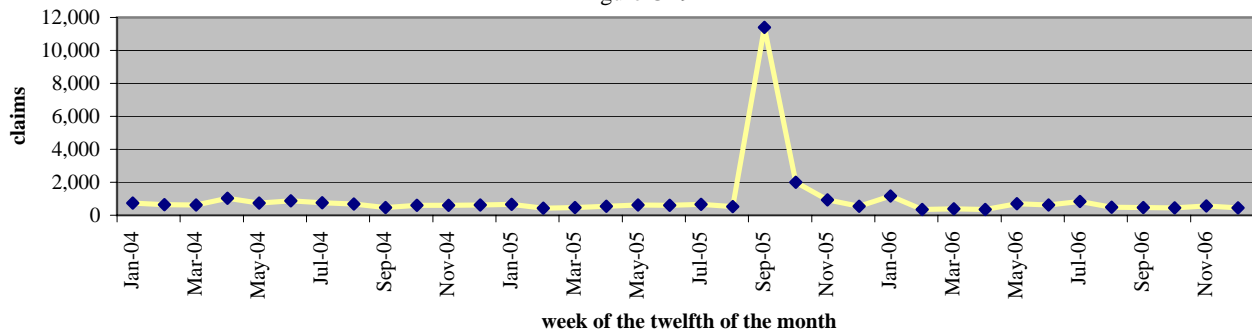
\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 2

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 2</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>7,150</b>	<b>1,612</b>	<b>13,373</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>5,797</b>
ASCENSION	94	826	131	1,189	53	571
E. BATON ROUGE	281	3,125	767	6,616	268	2,921
EAST FELICIANA	14	145	21	175	10	93
IBERVILLE	28	353	44	429	21	237
LIVINGSTON	90	927	117	971	57	518
POINTE COUPEE	22	213	38	361	15	147
ST. HELENA	7	54	16	120	7	56
TANGIPAHOA	100	924	352	2,426	97	830
WASHINGTON	35	312	78	674	26	241
W. BATON ROUGE	20	213	36	296	12	135
WEST FELICIANA	5	57	13	115	4	48

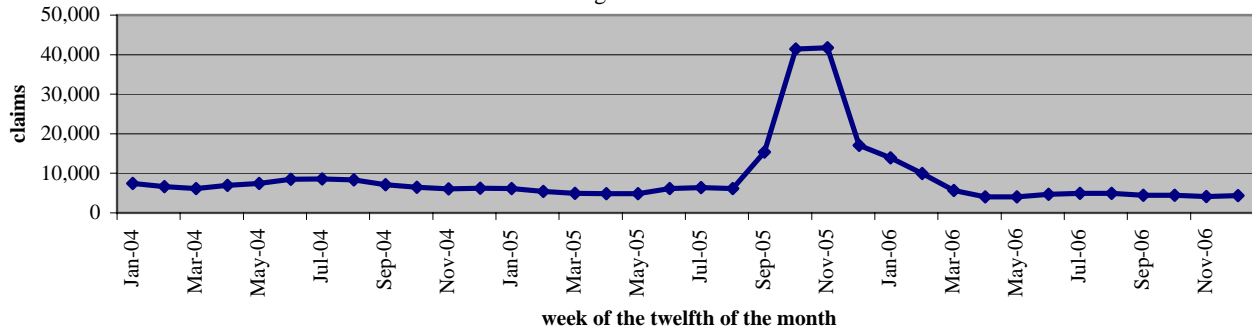
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 9



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 10

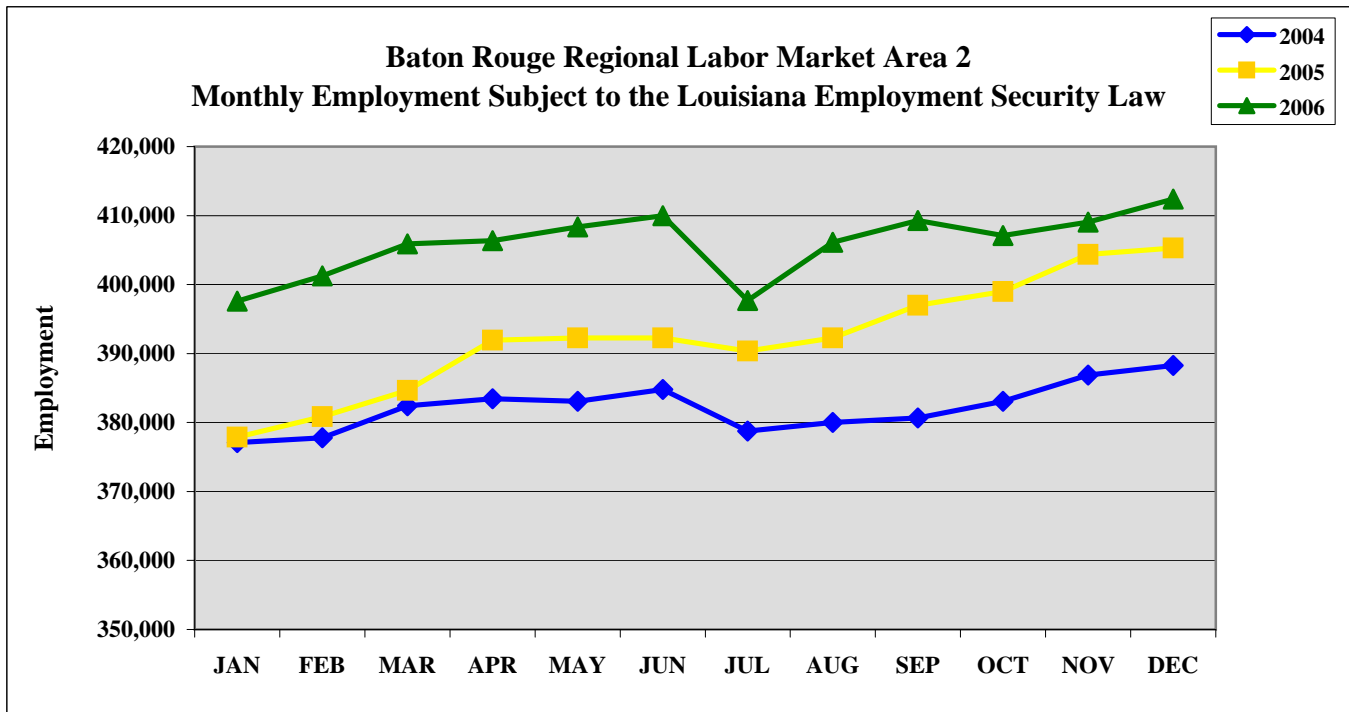


\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 2 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Baton Rouge RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 2). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Baton Rouge MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 2 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 9 and UI 10 indicate the number of claims in the Baton Rouge RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Baton Rouge RLMA had the most claims as a result of the 2005 hurricane season. Initial Claims increased from 529 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 11,390 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in December 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 6,145 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 41,708 claims for the same week in November 2005. In March 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels and remained slightly lower for the rest of 2006. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 4,530 claims for the week of the twelfth. East Baton Rouge and Tangipahoa parishes had the largest percentage increases in annual average weekly claims due to the storms (Table UI 2).

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 22,474 or 5.9 percent (Table 3 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 7.9 percent and 12.2 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 7 of the 11 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 13.8 percent in Livingston parish, to the greatest decrease of 5.5 percent in West Feliciana parish. The construction sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 308 units, a 15.0 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in finance and insurance with an increase of \$167, a 21.9 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr)

Table 3 Units

## RLMA 2 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	2003	2004	Percent	2005	Percent	2006	Percent	Percent
			Change		Change		Change	Change
			2003 to 2004		2004 to 2005		2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>21,707</b>	<b>21,659</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>22,333</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>23,373</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	175	173	-0.9%	173	0.0%	176	1.7%	1.7%
Mining	96	90	-6.0%	89	-1.1%	88	-1.1%	-2.2%
Utilities	150	146	-2.7%	141	-3.1%	142	0.7%	-2.4%
Construction	2,041	2,057	0.8%	2,167	5.3%	2,365	9.1%	15.0%
Manufacturing	871	844	-3.1%	844	0.1%	856	1.4%	1.5%
Wholesale Trade	1,545	1,546	0.1%	1,540	-0.4%	1,590	3.2%	2.9%
Retail Trade	3,156	3,146	-0.3%	3,213	2.1%	3,327	3.5%	5.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	733	714	-2.6%	743	4.1%	765	3.0%	7.2%
Information	349	326	-6.7%	330	1.4%	319	-3.3%	-2.0%
Finance & Insurance	1,543	1,542	-0.1%	1,621	5.2%	1,702	5.0%	10.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	854	849	-0.6%	873	2.9%	946	8.4%	11.5%
Professional & Technical Services	2,426	2,401	-1.0%	2,499	4.1%	2,622	4.9%	9.2%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	108	120	11.4%	122	1.9%	124	1.6%	3.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,085	1,096	1.0%	1,136	3.6%	1,218	7.2%	11.1%
Educational Services	223	229	2.6%	238	3.9%	245	2.9%	7.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,879	1,900	1.1%	2,010	5.8%	2,120	5.5%	11.6%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	239	230	-3.7%	229	-0.3%	242	5.7%	5.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,397	1,432	2.5%	1,503	4.9%	1,570	4.5%	9.6%
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,058	2,066	0.4%	2,079	0.6%	2,114	1.7%	2.3%
Public Administration	635	616	-2.9%	616	0.0%	625	1.5%	1.5%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 21,659 (Table 3 Units), down 0.2 percent compared to 21,707 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (3,146) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in the mining sector (90).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 22,333 (Table 3 Units), up 3.1 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (3,213) and the smallest number of annual average units (89) was found in mining.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 23,373 (Table 3 Units), up 4.7 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (3,327) and the smallest number of annual average units (88) was found in the mining sector.

Table 3 Wage - RLMA 2 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 2</b>	<b>\$599</b>	<b>\$619</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>\$644</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>\$694</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	453	450	-0.5%	449	-0.3%	479	6.7%	6.4%
Mining	1,395	982	-29.6%	926	-5.7%	1,045	12.9%	6.4%
Utilities	1,015	1,134	11.7%	1,102	-2.8%	1,030	-6.5%	-9.2%
Construction	663	677	2.1%	711	5.0%	825	16.0%	21.8%
Manufacturing	1,039	1,085	4.4%	1,118	3.1%	1,172	4.8%	8.0%
Wholesale Trade	775	813	4.9%	867	6.6%	958	10.5%	17.8%
Retail Trade	386	392	1.5%	414	5.7%	447	8.0%	14.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	662	693	4.8%	722	4.1%	779	7.9%	12.4%
Information	712	749	5.1%	809	8.0%	825	2.0%	10.2%
Finance & Insurance	723	761	5.3%	838	10.1%	928	10.7%	21.9%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	507	534	5.5%	550	2.9%	618	12.4%	15.6%
Professional & Technical Services	809	839	3.7%	922	9.9%	1,002	8.7%	19.5%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	906	992	9.5%	1,007	1.6%	1,151	14.3%	16.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	433	441	1.9%	463	4.9%	528	14.0%	19.7%
Educational Services	556	563	1.2%	587	4.3%	629	7.2%	11.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	567	593	4.6%	607	2.4%	634	4.4%	6.9%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	346	331	-4.3%	373	12.8%	354	-5.1%	7.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	212	217	1.9%	226	4.3%	239	5.8%	10.3%
Other Services, except Public Administration	451	458	1.5%	481	5.0%	529	10.0%	15.5%
Public Administration	644	693	7.5%	725	4.7%	766	5.7%	10.6%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$475 million to register a gain of 4.0 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$20 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$619 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,134 in the utilities sector to a low of \$217 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 3 Wage. Iberville parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$814 while St. Helena parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$429.

Total wages for 2005 increased \$838 million to register a gain of 6.8 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$644, which was an average increase of \$25 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,118 in the manufacturing sector to a low of \$226 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 3 Wage. Iberville parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$863 while St. Helena parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$466.

Total wages for 2006 increased \$1.5 approximately billion to register a gain of 11.1 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$694, which was an average increase of \$50 from 2005. The manufacturing sector (\$1,172) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$239) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 3 Wage. Iberville parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$875 and St. Helena parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$498.

Table 3 Employment

## RLMA 2 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	Percent	<u>2005</u>	Percent	<u>2006</u>	Percent	Percent
			<u>Change</u> <u>2003 to 2004</u>		<u>Change</u> <u>2004 to 2005</u>		<u>Change</u> <u>2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>378,935</b>	<b>381,979</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>392,015</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>404,453</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	1,417	1,320	-6.9%	1,314	-0.4%	1,258	-4.3%	-4.7%
Mining	1,461	1,683	15.2%	1,597	-5.1%	1,526	-4.4%	-9.3%
Utilities	3,600	3,491	-3.0%	3,390	-2.9%	3,441	1.5%	-1.4%
Construction	37,323	36,267	-2.8%	39,640	9.3%	42,957	8.4%	18.4%
Manufacturing	31,384	30,583	-2.6%	30,229	-1.2%	29,783	-1.5%	-2.6%
Wholesale Trade	15,593	15,498	-0.6%	14,703	-5.1%	14,709	0.0%	-5.1%
Retail Trade	44,811	44,792	0.0%	46,644	4.1%	49,504	6.1%	10.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	13,839	13,855	0.1%	13,185	-4.8%	13,331	1.1%	-3.8%
Information	7,190	7,157	-0.5%	7,305	2.1%	7,143	-2.2%	-0.2%
Finance & Insurance	13,647	13,957	2.3%	14,077	0.9%	14,718	4.6%	5.5%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	5,444	5,613	3.1%	5,734	2.2%	5,913	3.1%	5.3%
Professional & Technical Services	16,449	16,733	1.7%	16,977	1.5%	18,762	10.5%	12.1%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	4,249	4,345	2.3%	4,208	-3.2%	4,099	-2.6%	-5.7%
Administrative & Waste Services	19,336	19,537	1.0%	21,044	7.7%	23,362	11.0%	19.6%
Educational Services	38,695	40,976	5.9%	41,485	1.2%	40,216	-3.1%	-1.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	46,288	47,364	2.3%	50,122	5.8%	52,726	5.2%	11.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	5,341	5,179	-3.0%	5,189	0.2%	5,318	2.5%	2.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	29,261	30,108	2.9%	31,165	3.5%	32,125	3.1%	6.7%
Other Services, except Public Administration	12,059	12,302	2.0%	12,477	1.4%	12,181	-2.4%	-1.0%
Public Administration	31,272	30,991	-0.9%	31,222	0.7%	31,010	-0.7%	0.1%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)



Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 381,979 in the Baton Rouge RLMA (Table 3 Employment), an increase of 0.8 percent when compared to 378,935 in 2003. Employment in 5 of the 11 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 6.0 percent in St. Helena parish, to the largest decrease of 3.0 percent in Washington parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Baton Rouge RLMA with 47,364 employees, or 12.4 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 85,762, or 22.5 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 3,113 (0.8 percent); state workers averaged 42,389 (11.1 percent); and local government workers averaged 40,260 (10.5 percent), while the private sector made up 77.5 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 392,015 (Table 3 Employment), an increase of 2.6 percent when compared to 381,979 in 2004. Employment in 6 of the 11 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 9.9 percent in Livingston parish, to the greatest decrease of 5.5 percent in St. Helena parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Baton Rouge RLMA with 50,122 employees, or 12.8 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 86,614, or 22.1 percent of total employment, which was slightly up from 2004. Federal workers averaged 3,173 (0.8 percent); state workers averaged 43,629 (11.1 percent); and local government workers averaged 39,812 (10.2 percent), while the private sector made up 77.9 percent of employment.

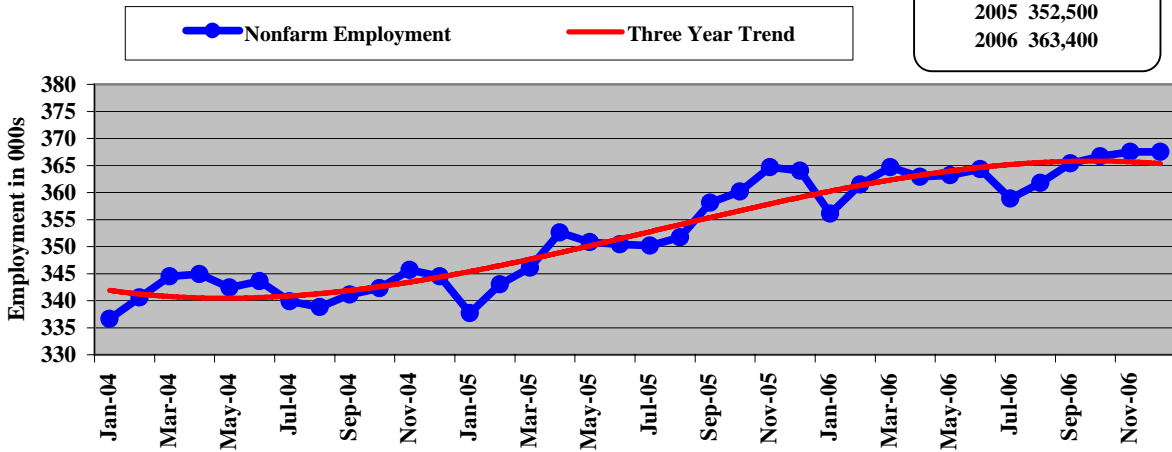
Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 404,453 (Table 3 Employment), an increase of 3.2 percent when compared to 392,015 in 2005. Employment in 8 of the 11 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 7.5 percent in Tangipahoa parish, to the greatest decrease of 4.8 percent in West Feliciana parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Baton Rouge RLMA with 52,726 employees, or 13.0 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 85,270, or 21.1 percent of total employment, which was down slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 4,210 (1.0 percent); state workers averaged 42,793 (10.6 percent); and local government workers averaged 38,267 (9.5 percent), while the private sector made up 78.9 percent of employment.

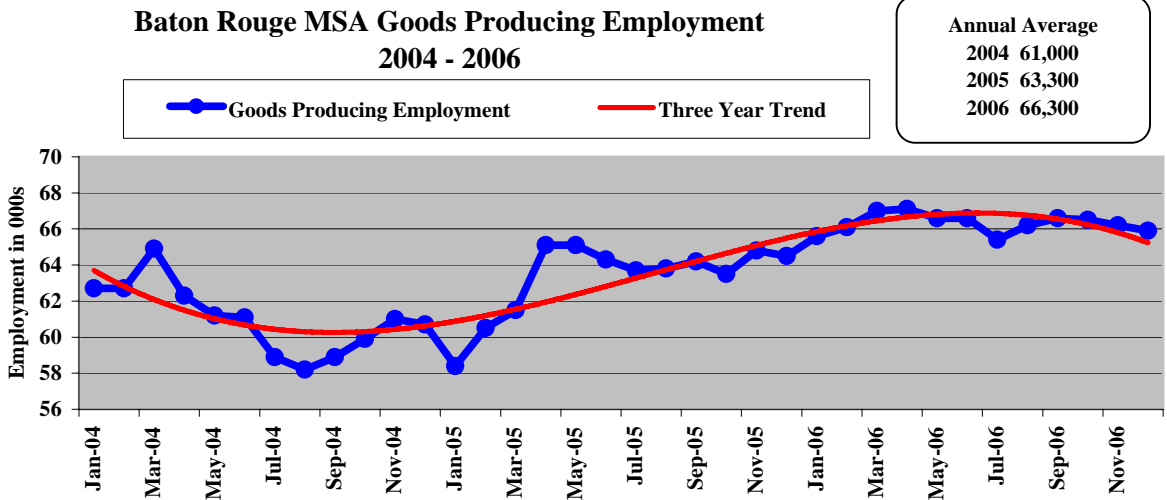
# Baton Rouge MSA Nonfarm Employment

Metropolitan Statistical Area : Ascension, E. Baton Rouge, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, W. Baton Rouge, & W. Feliciana Parishes

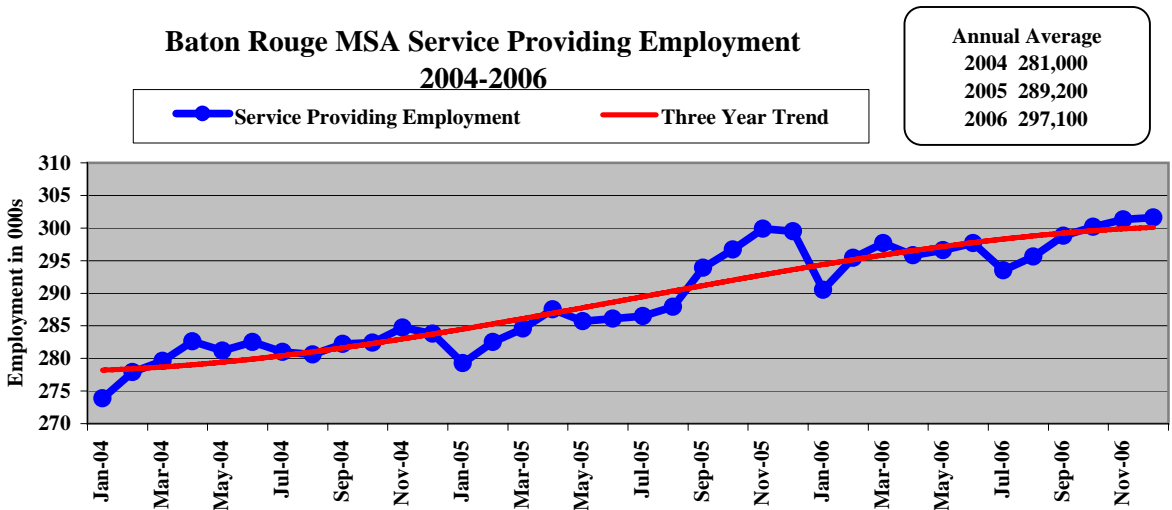
### Baton Rouge MSA Nonfarm Employment 2004 - 2006



### Baton Rouge MSA Goods Producing Employment 2004 - 2006



### Baton Rouge MSA Service Providing Employment 2004-2006



The Baton Rouge Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the second largest of the eight metropolitan statistical areas in Louisiana. Prior to 2003, it consisted of four parishes – Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge. In 2003, the Census Bureau redefined the MSAs. At that time, the Baton Rouge MSA added five more parishes; added were East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena and West Feliciana. The MSA now consists of nine parishes.

Even though the MSA consists of many manufacturing and production facilities, employment is driven by the service industries. Service-providing employment makes up roughly 82% of the total workforce. Several of the major sectors of this industry are influenced by seasonal trends, short-term projects and normal growth or decline due to more or less business for one reason or another. Some of the same factors, but to a different degree, also affects goods producing, the other major employment supersector. Our analysis will focus on the last three years of completed data – 2004, 2005 and 2006. The annual average will be used for comparison purposes.

In 2004, the nonfarm employment in the Baton Rouge MSA was 336,600 for January. The year ended with employment of 344,500. Comparing the 2003 annual average of 338,500 to the 2004 figure of 342,100, we see that the nonfarm employment rose 3,600. Goods producing employment, based on the 2003 figure of 61,900 and the 2004 average of 61,000, recorded a loss of 900 jobs. The volatility of the construction sector heavily influences employment and is usually primarily responsible for the peaks and troughs that occur in goods producing. Service providing employment, on the other hand, saw job-growth of 4,300 from 2003 to 2004. This growth was fueled by rises in employment in educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; and other services.

The 2005 January level of nonfarm employment was 337,700 and the December level was 364,000. The annual average was 352,500. Compared to the 2004 annual average of 342,100, the MSA experienced an over-the-year average gain of 10,400. Of course, much of this growth spurt can be attributed to the two major hurricanes of 2005 – Katrina and Rita. Noteworthy is the fact that the graph depicts rising employment prior to the hurricanes. Goods producing expanded an average of 2,300 from 2004, spurred by the construction sector. The service providing supersector, on average, rose 8,200 from 2004. Very substantial gains in professional and business services, and educational and health services boosted employment. Trade, transportation, and utilities, and leisure and hospitality services also gave assistance in the upward movement in service providing employment with increases of 1,000 or more each.

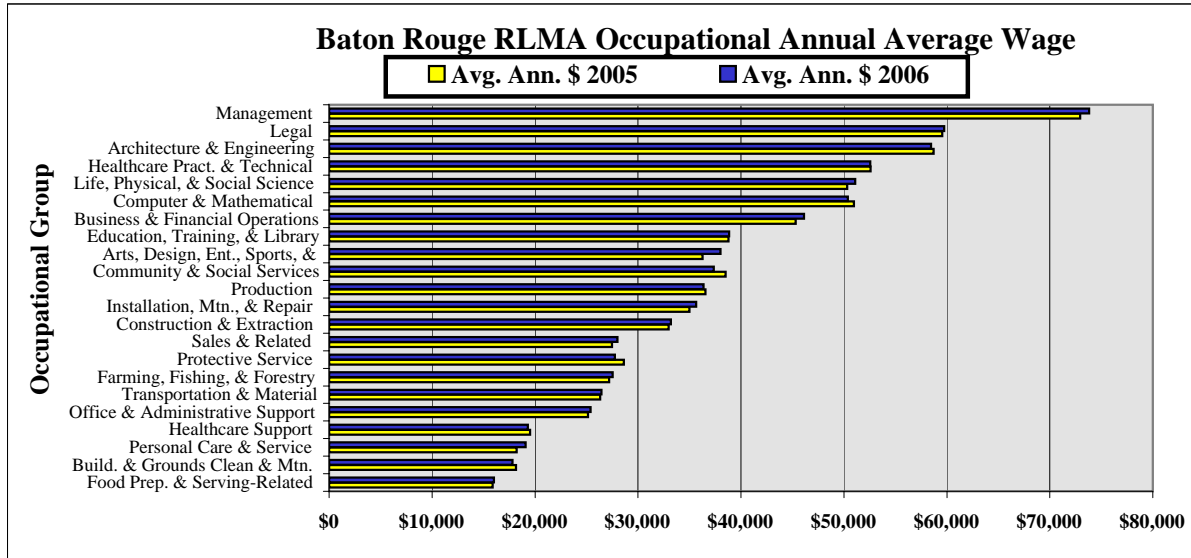
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**Regional Labor Market Area 2**

The Baton Rouge MSA began 2006 with a nonfarm employment level of 356,100 and closed out the year with a figure of 367,500. The average for the year was 363,400, edging up 10,900 from 2005. Goods producing averaged a gain of 3,000 more jobs in 2006 than in 2005. Once again the construction sector was primarily responsible and provided more than half the change. Service providing added an average of 7,900 jobs over the 2005-2006 time span. Big gains in professional and business services, and educational and health services combined to produce more than 68% of the yearly average growth of 7,900.

From 2004 to 2006, the Baton Rouge MSA has truly expanded. Not only were more parishes added, but also the population grew at an unexpected rate due to the 2005 acts of nature. The influx of new residents has demanded more services and more production. New and/or established businesses have moved in, started up and/or expanded in the Baton Rouge MSA. When comparing 2004 to 2006, nonfarm employment sprouted upward 21,300 according to the annual averages. Goods producing had average growth of 5,300 jobs for the period in question. Service providing employment elevated about 16,100 from 2004 to 2006. The trend lines on the graphs as well as the pointed plots give a very vivid picture of the economic situation from 2004 – 2006.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link [http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,884	15,994
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$18,142	17,812
Personal Care & Service	\$18,207	19,091
Healthcare Support	\$19,523	19,286
Office & Administrative Support	\$25,153	25,395
Transportation & Material Moving	\$26,334	26,455
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$27,190	27,538
Protective Service	\$28,638	27,739
Sales & Related	\$27,486	27,999
Construction & Extraction	\$32,984	33,194
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$34,998	35,661
Production	\$36,538	36,353
Community & Social Services	\$38,513	37,353
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$36,268	38,008
Education, Training, & Library	\$38,800	38,863
Business & Financial Operations	\$45,309	46,117
Computer & Mathematical	\$50,960	50,378
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$50,325	51,103
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$52,578	52,566
Architecture & Engineering	\$58,697	58,462
Legal	\$59,556	59,742
Management	\$72,946	73,821

The Baton Rouge RLMA's largest employment sector is government, followed by trade, transportation, and utilities. Over the year, average annual wages for the area increased in 14 of the 22 occupational groups. The Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media occupational group increased by \$1,740, the highest wage for this occupation in the state. The occupational groups of Personal Care & Service, Business and Financial Operations, and Management, all increased over \$800.00 on an annual basis. The highest paid reported occupations in the aforementioned occupational groups were: Embalmers at \$49,414; Financial Examiners at 82,144; and Engineering Managers at \$142,621. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Obstetricians and Gynecologists at \$194,506, while the lowest paid occupation was Amusement and Recreation Attendants at \$13,247. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

Regional Labor Market Area 2

**Table JVS 5**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	3	187	127	0.0%	2.6%	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	236	2	449	7.7%	0.1%	11.9%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	705	220	1,542	5.9%	1.7%	11.6%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	101	721	628	0.9%	5.6%	4.7%
Community and Social Services Occupations	2	180	406	0.0%	3.1%	7.3%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	325	147	190	7.4%	2.6%	3.3%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	833	954	3,377	3.0%	3.4%	12.0%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	36	347	921	0.2%	1.6%	4.1%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	32	0	0	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	943	1,544	2,631	3.1%	5.4%	9.0%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	475	424	538	2.6%	2.3%	2.7%
Healthcare Support Occupations	356	257	354	3.9%	2.9%	4.0%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	942	888	2,092	4.9%	4.6%	10.6%
Legal Occupations	3	4	0	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	18	6	12	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%
Management Occupations	346	361	129	1.5%	1.7%	0.6%
Military	0	0	4	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	157	39	766	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	1,565	1,086	1,571	2.6%	1.8%	2.5%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	529	198	839	5.6%	2.1%	8.4%
Production Occupations	663	478	1,315	2.6%	1.8%	5.1%
Protective Service Occupations	249	69	377	1.8%	0.5%	3.0%
Sales and Related Occupations	1,654	1,037	1,931	4.2%	2.6%	4.6%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	1,542	1,393	1,999	5.9%	5.4%	7.0%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>11,719</b>	<b>10,541</b>	<b>22,199</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

**Table JVS 6**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	1,440	1,031	4,313	3.8%	2.5%	9.7%
Education & Health Services	1,220	1,403	3,387	1.4%	1.5%	3.7%
Financial Activities	1,201	1,035	684	6.2%	5.3%	3.3%
Information	518	45	216	6.9%	0.6%	2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,603	1,987	3,315	4.6%	5.4%	8.7%
Manufacturing	536	226	972	1.7%	0.7%	3.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	97	28	119	3.4%	1.0%	4.2%
Other Services	630	1,201	1,452	5.1%	9.6%	12.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,426	1,058	2,540	3.6%	2.5%	5.4%
Public Administration	*	453	361	*	1.5%	1.2%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	3,049	2,074	4,787	3.9%	2.7%	5.9%
Unclassified	0	0	53	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>11,719</b>	<b>10,541</b>	<b>22,199</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 2**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 11,719 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.3 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were over three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (3,049) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation, and utilities (Table JVS 6), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in sales and related with 1,654 (Table JVS 5). Approximately 75 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Baton Rouge regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 75 percent of the vacancies. Vacancies that paid wages of \$7.00 or less amounted to 40 percent. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy and tractor trailer; retail salespersons; customer service representatives; janitors and cleaners; and automotive service technicians. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

In comparison, there were 10,541 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.7 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (2,074) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 6), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in food preparation and serving-related with 1,544 (Table JVS 5). Approximately 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Baton Rouge regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly more than 55 percent of the job vacancies. A little less than 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; waiters and waitresses; receptionists and information clerks; and loan officers. For this survey, no reported difficulty was the top response by employers when trying to fill the vacant position.

In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 22,199 job vacancies reported resulting in a 5.4 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately 5 and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (4,787) was in trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 6), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in construction and extraction with 3,377 (Table JVS 5). Job vacancy positions required a high school diploma or less in 75 percent of the vacancies, while Baton Rouge regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in 58 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly less than 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were construction laborers; landscaping and groundskeeping workers; cashiers; secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education; and retail salespersons. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people who wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted

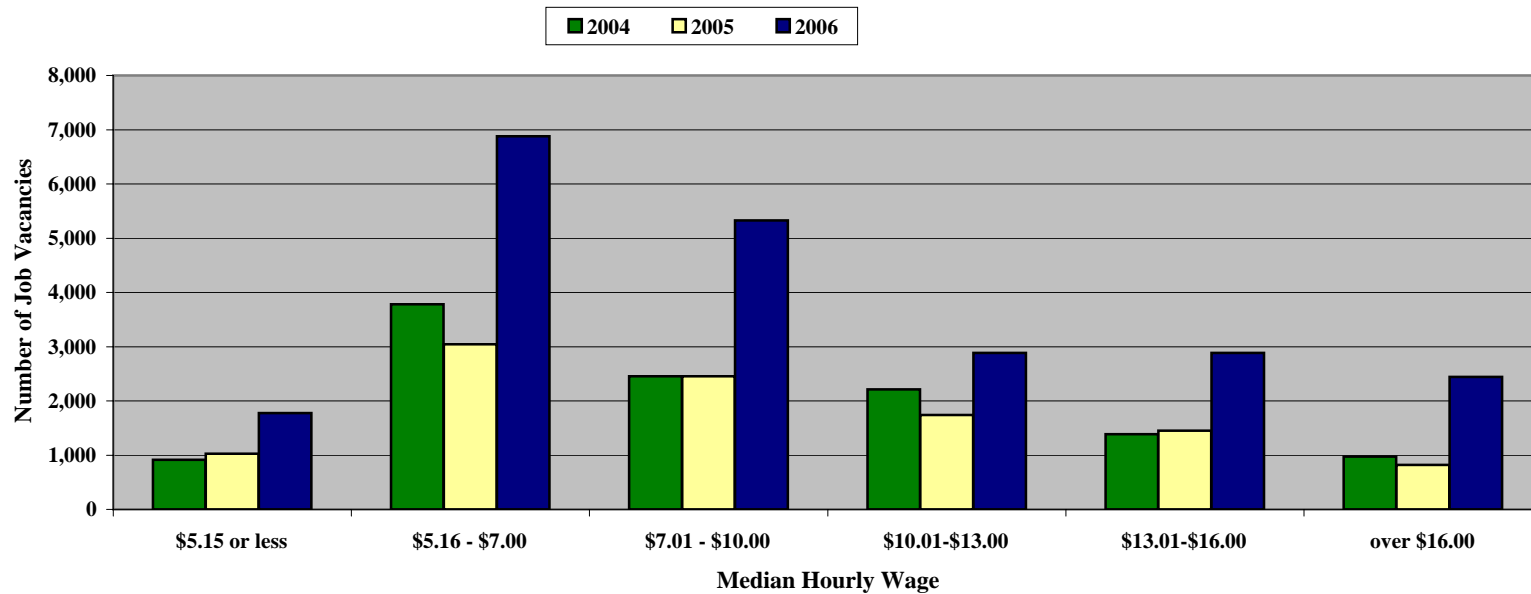


Regional Labor Market Area 2

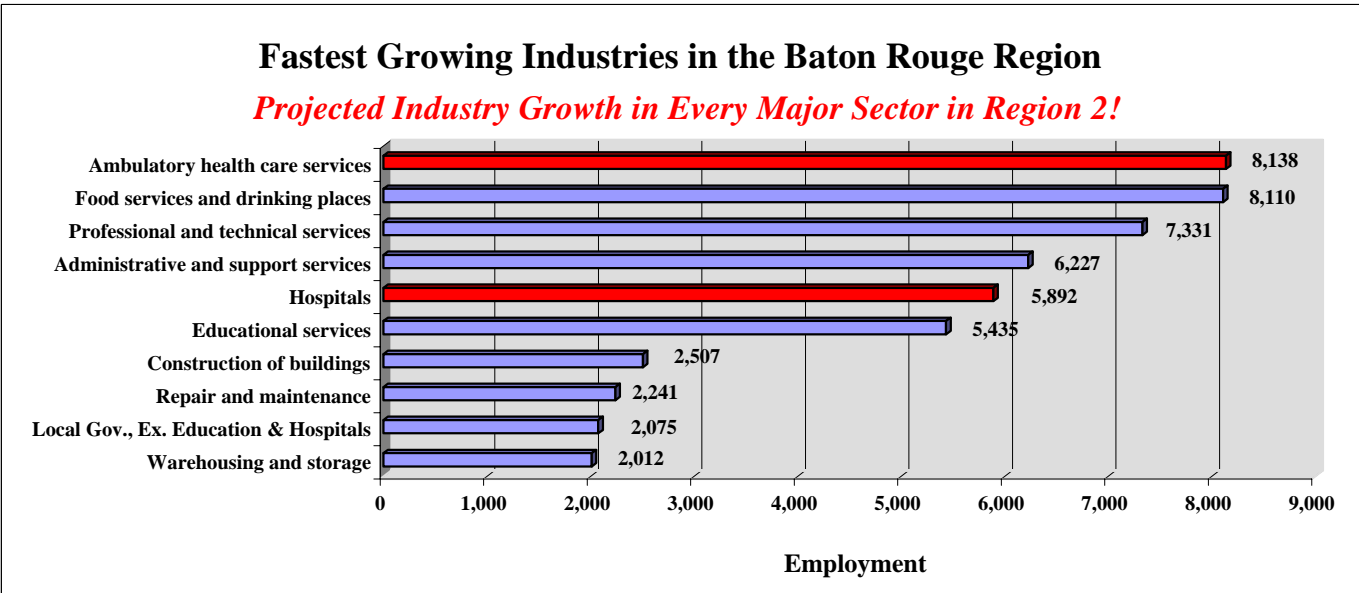
The number of job vacancies reported were down some 10 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 110 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In the three vacancy studies, trade, transportation and utilities was the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies. The construction and extraction occupational group had slightly more than a 300 percent increase in the number of vacancies from 2005 to 2006. The greatest increase in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 3 when the range of \$5.16 to \$7.00 more than doubled from 2005 to 2006. Based on the number of job vacancies, this was just under 4,000 more jobs paying \$5.16 to \$7.00 per hour. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

RLMA 2 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results

Figure: JVS 3



Regional Labor Market Area 2 : Ascension, E. Baton Rouge, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, W. Baton Rouge, & W. Feliciana



The Baton Rouge Region is expected to add 78,756 workers by the year 2014. Comparing the fourth quarter 2006 covered employment to the 2004 annual average covered employment has shown an increase of over 27,500 workers in the two year period. The above chart of the fastest growing industries further defines the broad spectrum of workers needed. Five of the major industry segments will grow by over 31 percent.

The ambulatory health care services industry is expected to add 8,138 workers to the Baton Rouge region. Workers in this industry segment will staff offices of physicians, dentists, as well as other health care practioners. Home health care services also falls under the health care umbrella. Social assistance and hospitals will need another 7,710 workers to make health care the fastest growing industry sector in Region 2.

Food services and drinking places was one of the fastest growing industries across the state as well as nationally. Growth in this industry serves as a stepping stone for young people entering the labor force to obtain their first job. The on-the-job-training educational requirements help jump start individuals into the world of work. This industry serves as their first time job experiences teaching punctuality, team work, and respect for others. Many people work their way through college in this work environment.

Industries in the professional and technical services industries include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services, as well as photography studios, are also included in this sector that will need 7,331 additional workers by 2014.

Some of the largest employing sectors in this industry are employment placement services and temporary help services. Both of these industries provide critical staff for companies that often lead to permanent positions with employers hiring them. Telemarketing bureaus, collection agencies, travel agencies and security services are also in this broad industry sector.

Educational services includes all types of teachers from kindergarten through universities, cosmetology and barber schools as well as flight schools and support workers are projected to need additional trained staff. These workers will include administrative staff, instructors, bus drivers and cafeteria workers.

The construction of buildings industry will need 2,507 skilled craftsmen to work on single and multi family dwellings, industrial, and commercial building construction as well as remodeling.

The repair and maintenance industry will need workers who can repair automobiles, computers, commercial machinery and household goods like furniture and appliances.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

**Regional Labor Market Area 2: Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, & West Feliciana**

***Fastest Growing Medical Related Jobs by Percent Growth 2004 to 2014!***

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>10 Year % Job Growth</b>	<b>Average Annual Regional Wage</b>	<b>Minimum Education</b>
2	Physician Assistants	75.0%	\$50,964	Bachelor's degree
3	Medical Assistants	67.5%	\$22,608	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
4	Physical Therapist Assistants	66.7%	\$44,757	Associate degree
6	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	62.5%	\$53,226	Associate degree
7	Home Health Aides	59.6%	\$17,291	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
9	Dental Hygienists	57.1%	\$45,577	Associate degree
12	Radiation Therapists	55.6%	\$54,485	Associate degree
13	Dental Assistants	55.3%	\$22,833	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
14	Occupational Therapists	55.2%	\$62,032	Bachelor's degree
15	Physical Therapists	53.2%	\$69,658	Master's degree
19	Respiratory Therapists	50.0%	\$40,591	Associate degree
20	Physical Therapist Aides	50.0%	\$17,855	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
25	Ambulance Drivers and Attendants, Ex. E. M. T.	50.0%	\$27,894	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.

More than half of the occupations projected to grow the most based on percent increase in the Baton Rouge Regional Labor Market Area are in health related industries. This trend ties in with ambulatory health care services as the fastest growing industry for Region 2. The chart above shows the number and rank in the top 25 fastest growing occupations that are in the medical field. There is a wide range of minimum educational requirements for these occupations making it easier for workers to enter these occupations and have career ladders as they gain education and experience.

Physicians and medical assistants can work in a variety of industries. Besides the medical settings, some large corporations and plants have in-house medical staff for their accident and illness preventive programs for workers.

Physical therapist assistants and physical therapists are in the top 25 demand occupations because of the population increase for persons 55 and over in the coming years. Individuals will need these workers to passively treat medical conditions as people generally live longer.

Of the top medical occupations projected to grow in Region 2 home health aides will need the most workers as older citizens use the option for health care at home instead of using nursing home facilities. The ten year projected new growth for this occupation was 620 workers.

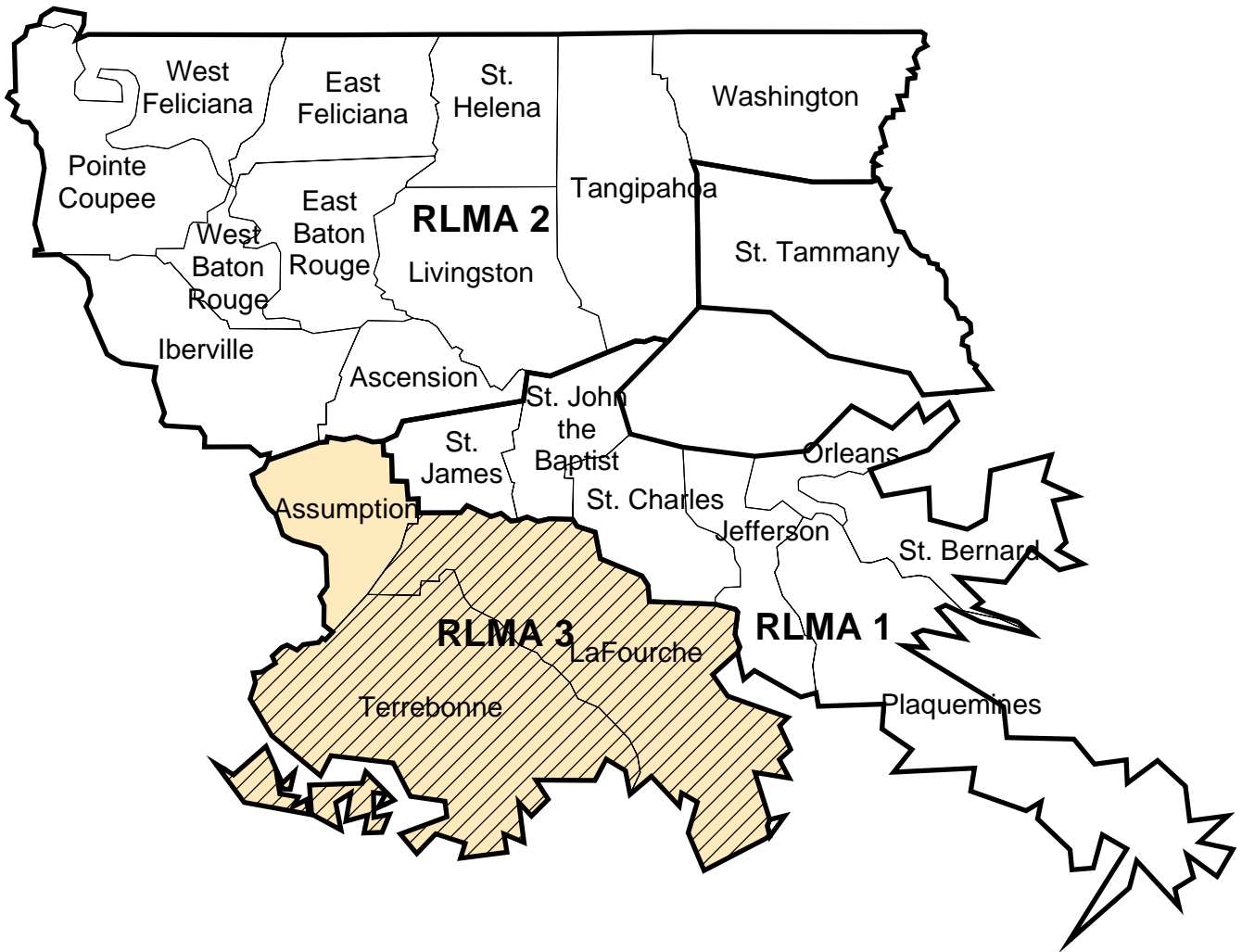
Radiation, occupational, physical and respiratory therapist will need almost 700 workers to fill new jobs in the Baton Rouge and surrounding areas by the year 2014. The minimum education for these jobs range from an associates degree to a master's degree. Salaries will average from \$40,591 for respiratory therapist to \$69,658 for physical therapist.

Other medical occupation with high demand are ambulance drivers and attendants, diagnostic medical sonographers, and dental assistants. The variety of settings for these occupations will be attractive to people wanting entry level positions in the medical field requiring moderate training and experience or an associate's degree.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

# Louisiana

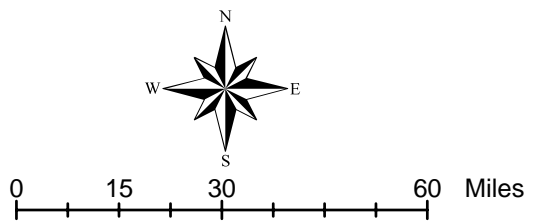
## Regional Labor Market Area 3 and Houma - Bayou Cane - Thibodaux MSA

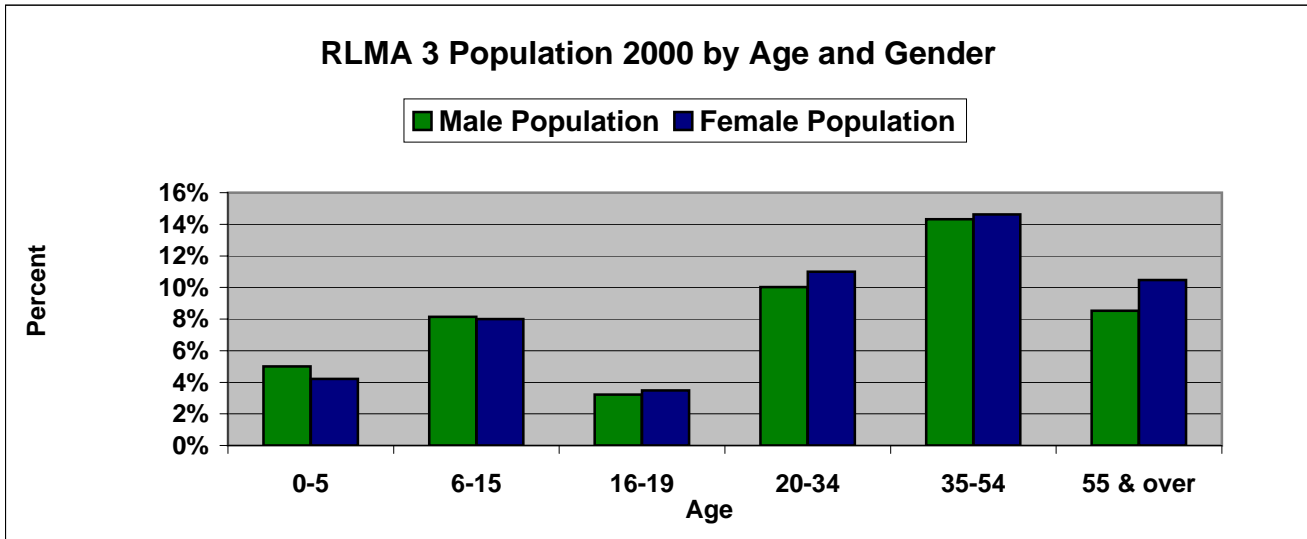


### Legend

- RLMA 3
- Houma - Bayou Cane - Thibodaux MSA

**Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
Research and Statistics GIS Program  
August 2007**





Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

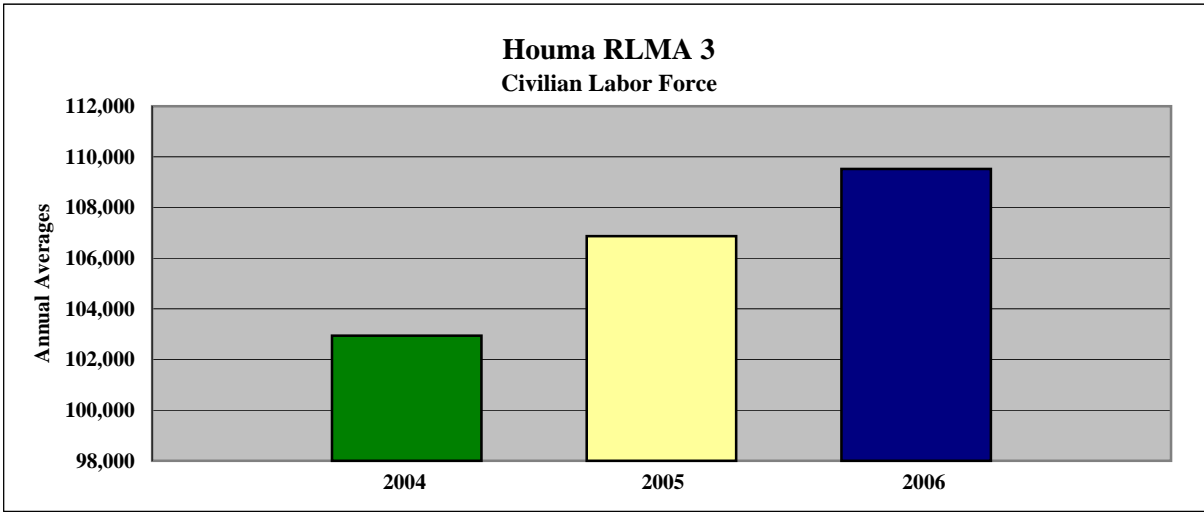
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 3	217,865	18,973	35,139	14,590	44,693	63,073	41,397
Males	106,172	9,798	17,719	7,008	21,834	31,217	18,596
Females	111,693	9,175	17,420	7,582	22,859	31,856	22,801

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 3	100%	9%	16%	6%	21%	29%	19%
Males	49%	5%	8%	3%	10%	14%	9%
Females	51%	4%	8%	3%	11%	15%	10%

Regional Labor Market Area 3 (RLMA 3) population in 2000 had 49 percent males and 51 percent females, compared to the statewide distribution of 48 percent males and 52 percent females for the same time period. The RLMA 3 age group from birth to 5 years old had 1 percent more males than females in that age group. The ages of 6 to 19 had equal percentages of males and females. The higher age groups from 20 years old and over showed an increase of the female population of 1 percent more than the male population.

Regional Labor Market Area 3

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
ASSUMPTION	10,469	7.9%	10,058	9.2%	10,109	4.8%
<b>LAFOURCHE</b>	43,806	4.6%	45,582	5.6%	46,909	2.8%
<b>TERREBONNE</b>	48,668	4.8%	51,225	6.1%	52,509	3.0%



The Houma RLMA has become a fast growing area in the state. Civilian Labor force in the region started increasing in 2004 and is presently experiencing growth. As seen in the graph above, labor force in the area has continued to grow at a steady pace over the three years. In addition to an increasing labor force, employment in the region has been on the rise. Houma saw employment increase by about 2,500 or 2.5 percent from 2004 to 2005 and by 5,900 or 6 percent from 2005 to 2006. Lafourche and Terrebonne are the two major parishes for the area primarily responsible for the growth measured in the region. Assumption parish is considered part of the regional labor market area, but it is not part of the Metropolitan Statistical Area. The labor force for Assumption did not follow the same pattern as the regional labor market area. Instead of increasing throughout the three years, Assumption's labor force experienced a slight decline from 2004 to 2005 and showed a minimal increase in 2006. The Houma region experienced a slight increase in the unemployed and unemployment rate in 2005, which was followed by a decline the following year. It appears a positive outlook can be derived when looking at the current labor market conditions for Houma. Presently, the labor force and employment levels are still increasing. Hopefully, a growing labor force will allow growth and development to occur in other areas of the region to maximize the economic potential.

**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.

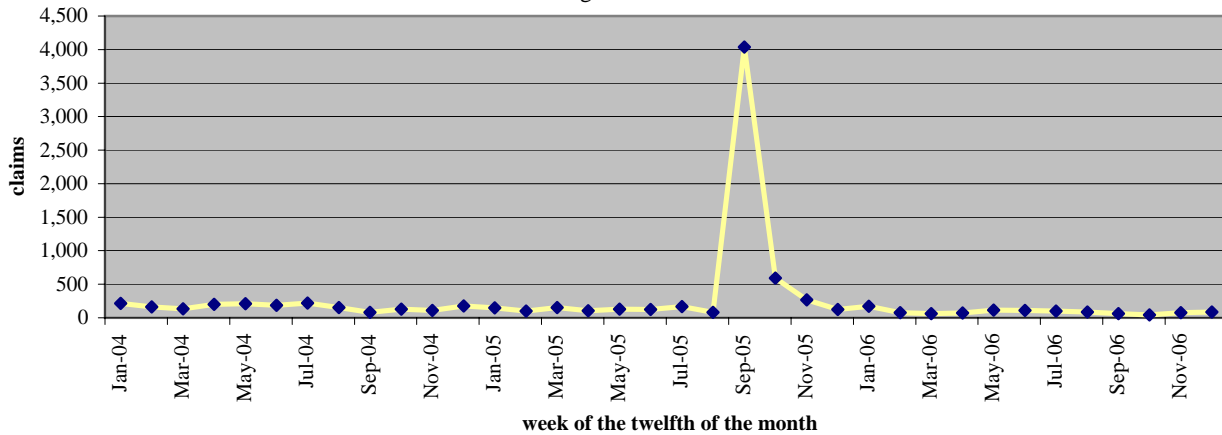
\*\*Parishes in bold are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 3

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 3</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>2,932</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>877</b>
ASSUMPTION	36	314	56	409	20	170
LAFOURCHE	59	505	186	1,017	33	309
TERREBONNE	70	651	261	1,506	36	399

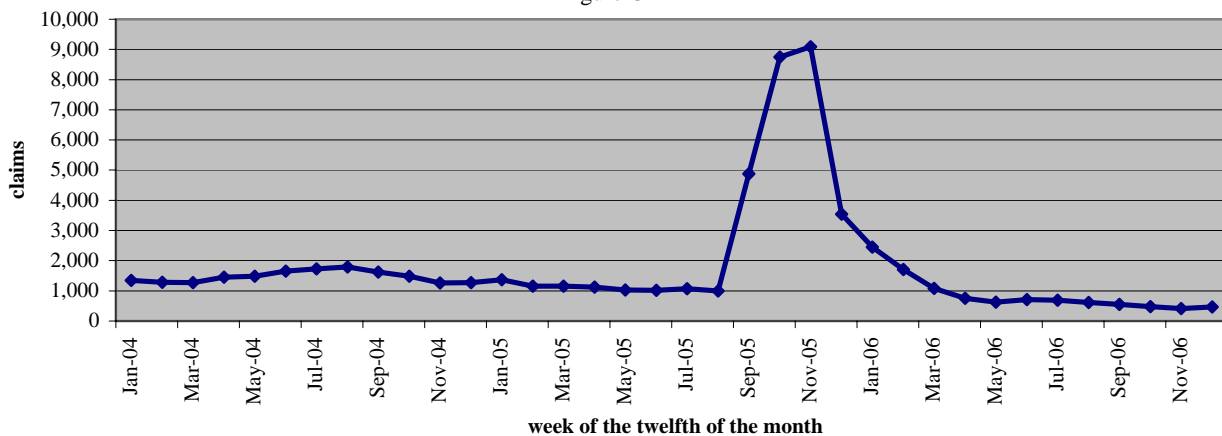
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 11



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 12



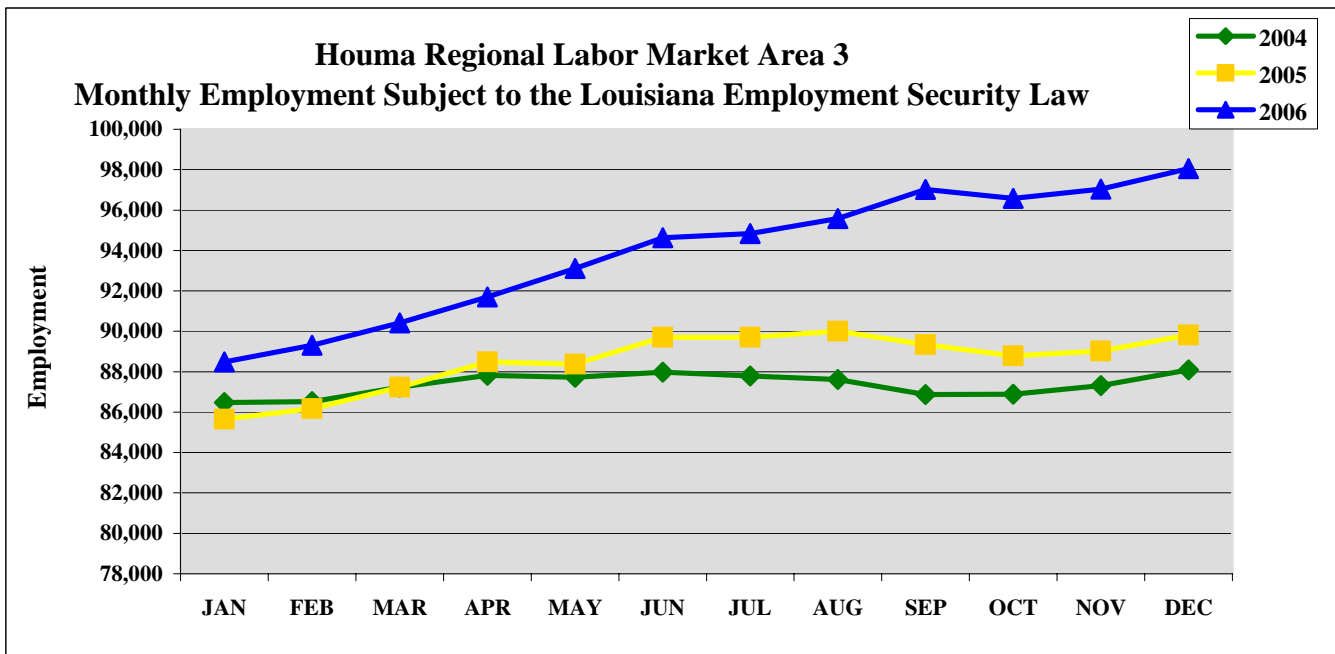
\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 3 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Houma RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 3). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Houma MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 3 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 11 and UI 12 indicate the number of claims in the Houma RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Houma RLMA had a large percentage increase in claims compared to other labor market areas as a result of the 2005 hurricane season. Initial Claims increased from 83 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 4,038 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in December 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 994 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 9,088 claims for the same week in November 2005. In March 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels and continued to decline for the rest of 2006. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 534 claims for the week of the twelfth. Terrebonne parish had the largest percentage increase in annual average weekly claims due to the storms (Table UI 3).

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).





The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 6,455 or 7.4 percent (Table 4 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 3.6 percent and 20.4 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 2 of the 3 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 11.0 percent in Terrebonne parish, to the greatest decrease of 13.8 percent in Assumption parish. The construction sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 45 units, a 9.2 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in transportation and warehousing with an increase of \$232, a 25.3 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr)

## Table 4 Units

## RLMA 3 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change		Percent Change		Percent Change
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005 to 2006</u>	<u>2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>5,275</b>	<b>5,306</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>5,376</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>5,497</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	94	97	3.5%	96	-1.3%	94	-2.1%	-3.3%
Mining	161	160	-0.9%	162	1.6%	165	1.9%	3.4%
Utilities	30	29	-2.5%	30	3.4%	30	0.0%	3.4%
Construction	487	488	0.4%	506	3.6%	533	5.3%	9.2%
Manufacturing	238	231	-2.6%	238	2.9%	251	5.5%	8.5%
Wholesale Trade	283	282	-0.3%	280	-0.8%	283	1.1%	0.3%
Retail Trade	832	843	1.3%	823	-2.3%	825	0.2%	-2.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	378	371	-1.7%	377	1.5%	383	1.6%	3.2%
Information	61	64	4.9%	64	-0.4%	58	-9.4%	-9.7%
Finance & Insurance	336	331	-1.6%	353	6.6%	369	4.5%	11.5%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	280	277	-1.2%	287	3.6%	293	2.1%	5.8%
Professional & Technical Services	429	430	0.3%	443	3.0%	463	4.5%	7.6%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	22	24	9.1%	23	-4.2%	21	-8.7%	-12.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	191	209	9.7%	221	5.7%	230	4.1%	10.0%
Educational Services	30	29	-2.5%	29	-0.9%	32	10.3%	9.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	436	458	4.9%	463	1.2%	472	1.9%	3.2%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	81	78	-3.4%	76	-2.6%	76	0.0%	-2.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	367	369	0.7%	370	0.2%	376	1.6%	1.8%
Other Services, except Public Administration	379	380	0.3%	377	-0.9%	379	0.5%	-0.3%
Public Administration	151	144	-4.5%	144	0.2%	146	1.4%	1.6%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 5,306 (Table 4 Units), up 0.6 percent compared to 5,275 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (843) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises (24).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 5,376 (Table 4 Units), up 1.3 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (823) and the smallest number of annual average units (23) was found in management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 5,497 (Table 4 Units), up 2.3 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (825) and the smallest number of annual average units (21) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 4 Wage - RLMA 3 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 3</b>	<b>\$597</b>	<b>\$611</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>\$645</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>\$735</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	390	400	2.7%	386	-3.6%	430	11.4%	7.4%
Mining	1,043	1,133	8.6%	1,136	0.3%	1,285	13.1%	13.5%
Utilities	713	753	5.6%	813	7.9%	822	1.1%	9.1%
Construction	671	689	2.8%	713	3.4%	853	19.6%	23.8%
Manufacturing	789	823	4.4%	838	1.8%	920	9.8%	11.8%
Wholesale Trade	652	679	4.2%	726	6.9%	831	14.5%	22.4%
Retail Trade	364	368	1.1%	385	4.6%	430	11.7%	16.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	884	917	3.7%	1,003	9.4%	1,149	14.6%	25.3%
Information	599	625	4.4%	654	4.6%	690	5.5%	10.4%
Finance & Insurance	592	621	4.8%	782	26.0%	829	6.0%	33.6%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	737	761	3.2%	785	3.2%	926	18.0%	21.7%
Professional & Technical Services	712	718	0.8%	751	4.6%	884	17.7%	23.1%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	696	702	0.8%	804	14.6%	824	2.5%	17.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	313	320	2.4%	364	13.7%	496	36.3%	54.9%
Educational Services	429	443	3.2%	455	2.8%	481	5.7%	8.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	633	630	-0.5%	653	3.7%	684	4.7%	8.6%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	253	253	0.1%	279	10.3%	307	10.0%	21.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	214	212	-1.1%	219	3.2%	258	17.8%	21.6%
Other Services, except Public Administration	501	533	6.3%	521	-2.3%	639	22.6%	19.8%
Public Administration	530	541	2.0%	578	6.9%	589	1.9%	8.9%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$24 million to register a gain of 0.9 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$14 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$611 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,133 in the mining sector to a low of \$212 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 4 Wage. Assumption parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$629 while Lafourche parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$596.

Total wages for 2005 increased \$192 million to register a gain of 6.9 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$645, which was an average increase of \$34 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,136 in the mining sector to a low of \$219 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 4 Wage. Terrebonne parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$651 while Assumption parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$598.

Total wages for 2006 increased \$618 million to register a gain of 20.9 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$735, which was an average increase of \$90 from 2005. The mining sector (\$1,285) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$258) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 4 Wage. Terrebonne parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$741 and Assumption parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$653.

Table 4 Employment

## RLMA 3 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	2003	2004	Percent	2005	Percent	2006	Percent	Percent
			Change		Change		Change	Change
			2003 to 2004		2004 to 2005		2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>88,582</b>	<b>87,392</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>88,384</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>93,847</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	822	828	0.7%	776	-6.2%	727	-6.3%	-12.2%
Mining	5,989	5,425	-9.4%	5,824	7.4%	6,449	10.7%	18.9%
Utilities	439	440	0.3%	445	1.1%	433	-2.7%	-1.6%
Construction	5,821	5,417	-6.9%	5,081	-6.2%	6,401	26.0%	18.2%
Manufacturing	9,426	8,828	-6.3%	9,232	4.6%	10,122	9.6%	14.7%
Wholesale Trade	2,609	2,469	-5.4%	2,456	-0.5%	2,586	5.3%	4.8%
Retail Trade	11,003	10,897	-1.0%	10,914	0.2%	11,347	4.0%	4.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,675	7,620	-0.7%	8,232	8.0%	9,300	13.0%	22.0%
Information	1,009	975	-3.5%	899	-7.7%	878	-2.3%	-9.9%
Finance & Insurance	2,098	2,160	3.0%	2,064	-4.5%	2,156	4.5%	-0.2%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,335	3,253	-2.5%	3,297	1.4%	3,635	10.3%	11.8%
Professional & Technical Services	1,883	2,010	6.8%	1,911	-4.9%	2,061	7.8%	2.5%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1,422	1,360	-4.4%	1,507	10.8%	1,388	-7.9%	2.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	4,840	4,801	-0.8%	5,087	6.0%	5,571	9.5%	16.0%
Educational Services	8,829	8,905	0.9%	8,024	-9.9%	7,413	-7.6%	-16.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	9,619	9,926	3.2%	10,306	3.8%	10,553	2.4%	6.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	738	775	5.0%	820	5.9%	805	-1.8%	3.9%
Accommodation & Food Services	5,718	5,964	4.3%	6,286	5.4%	6,688	6.4%	12.1%
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,154	2,148	-0.3%	2,080	-3.2%	2,286	9.9%	6.4%
Public Administration	3,134	3,162	0.9%	3,083	-2.5%	3,003	-2.6%	-5.0%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 87,392 in the Houma RLMA (Table 4 Employment), a decrease of 1.3 percent when compared to 88,582 in 2003. Employment in all 3 parishes decreased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest decrease of 6.0 percent in Assumption parish, to the smallest decrease of 0.5 percent in Terrebonne parish. Retail trade was the leading industry in the Houma RLMA with 10,897 employees, or 12.5 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 15,140, or 17.3 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 482 (0.6 percent); state workers averaged 2,896 (3.3 percent); and local government workers averaged 11,762 (13.5 percent), while the private sector made up 82.7 percent of employment.

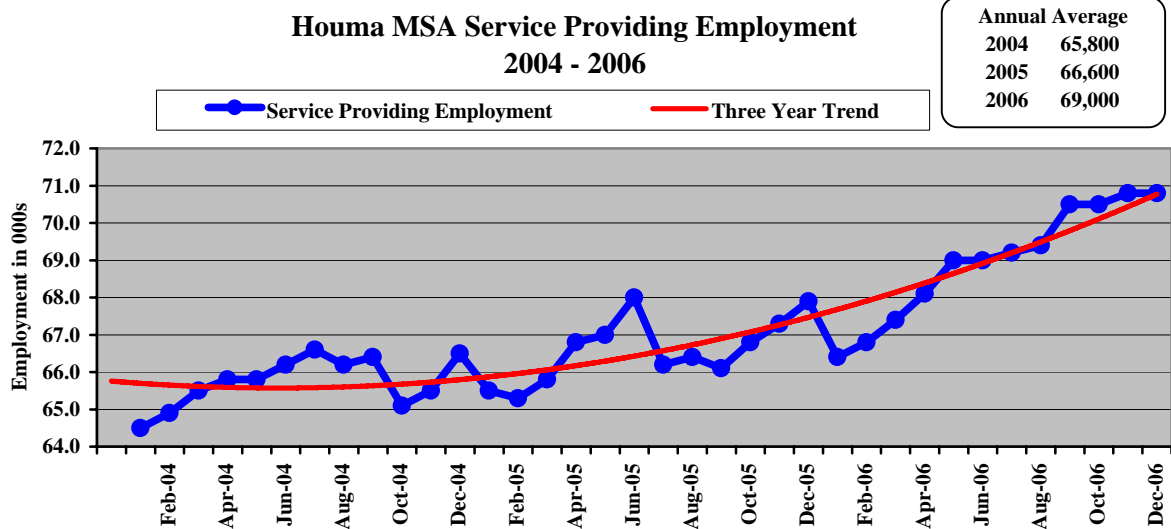
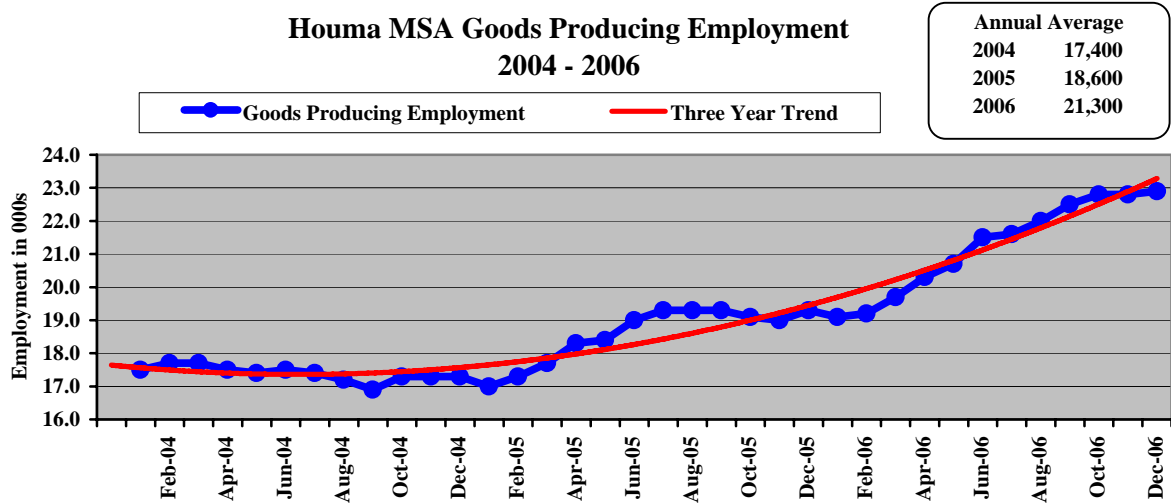
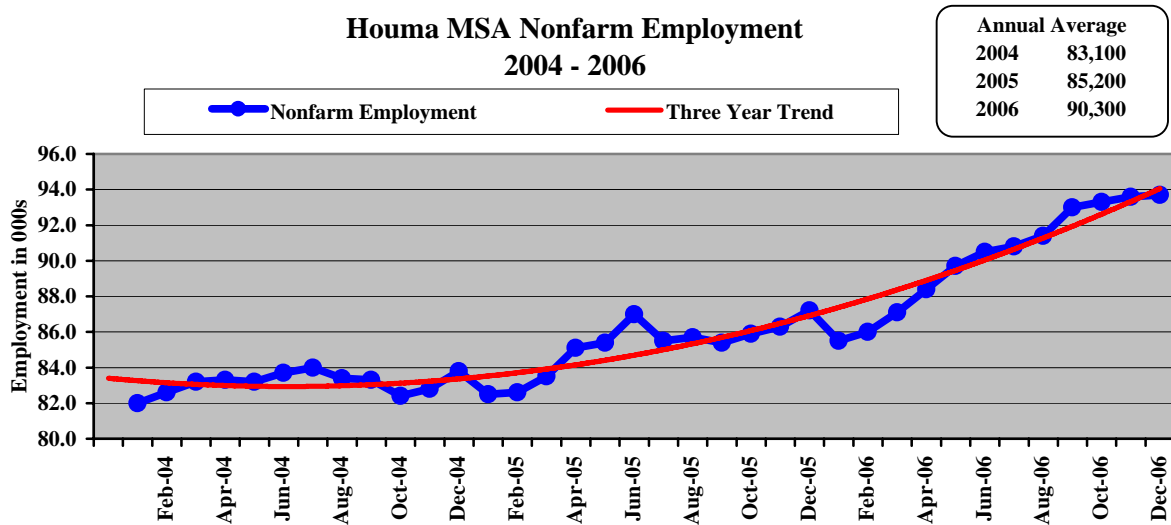
Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 88,384 (Table 4 Employment), an increase of 1.1 percent when compared to 87,392 in 2004. Employment in 2 of the 3 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 3.0 percent in Terrebonne parish, to the greatest decrease of 18.0 percent in Assumption parish. Retail trade was the leading industry in the Houma RLMA with 10,914 employees, or 12.3 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 14,810, or 16.8 percent of total employment, which was slightly down from 2004. Federal workers averaged 485 (0.6 percent); state workers averaged 2,956 (3.3 percent); and local government workers averaged 11,369 (12.9 percent), while the private sector made up 83.2 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 93,847 (Table 4 Employment), an increase of 6.2 percent when compared to 88,384 in 2005. Employment in all 3 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 7.7 percent in Terrebonne parish, to the smallest increase of 4.0 percent in Lafourche parish. Retail trade continued to be the leading industry in the Houma RLMA with 11,347 employees, or 12.1 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 14,407, or 15.4 percent of total employment, which was down slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 478 (0.5 percent); state workers averaged 2,918 (3.1 percent); and local government workers averaged 11,011 (11.7 percent), while the private sector made up 84.6 percent of employment.

Metropolitan Statistical Area : LaFourche and Terrebonne Parishes



The Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the sixth largest metropolitan statistical area in Louisiana. The MSA consists of Lafourche parish and Terrebonne parish. It is an MSA that has been driven by the oil industry. It is an MSA that had an annual average of 21,300 employees for goods producing for the year of 2006. It was the highest annual average for this super sector ever. An analysis of the last 3 years (2004-2006) of completed data and annual averages will be conducted to track the MSA's employment performance.

In the year 2004, the Houma MSA nonfarm employment began the year at 82,000 jobs. The nonfarm annual average for 2004 was 83,100 compared to 2003's average of 83,800 resulting in a decrease in employment of 700 jobs. The decrease in nonfarm employment was a result of goods producing annual average for 2004 of 17,400, being 800 less than the 2003 level of 18,200. This decrease in goods producing was seen in the natural resources and construction sector. Service providing, annual average for 2004 was 65,800 compared to 2003's average of 65,600. This increase added 200 jobs to nonfarm annual average.

At the start of 2005, nonfarm employment was at 82,500 jobs. The nonfarm annual average for 2005 was 85,200 compared to the average of 83,100 for 2004, representing an increase in employment of 2,100 jobs. In 2005, the natural disaster of hurricane Katrina caused an influx of people into this region that had a major impact on the employment industries of this MSA. This increase in nonfarm employment was a result of both goods producing and service providing increasing in 2005. Goods producing, with an annual average for 2005 of 18,600 compared to the average for 2004 at 17,400, contributed 1,200 jobs. Service providing, with an annual average for 2005 of 66,600 compared to 2004's average at 65,800, contributed 800 jobs. Trade, transportation, and utilities, and professional and business services helped this increase with both annual averages increasing by 400 more than 2004. At the end of the year, nonfarm employment and service providing both finished above the trend line.

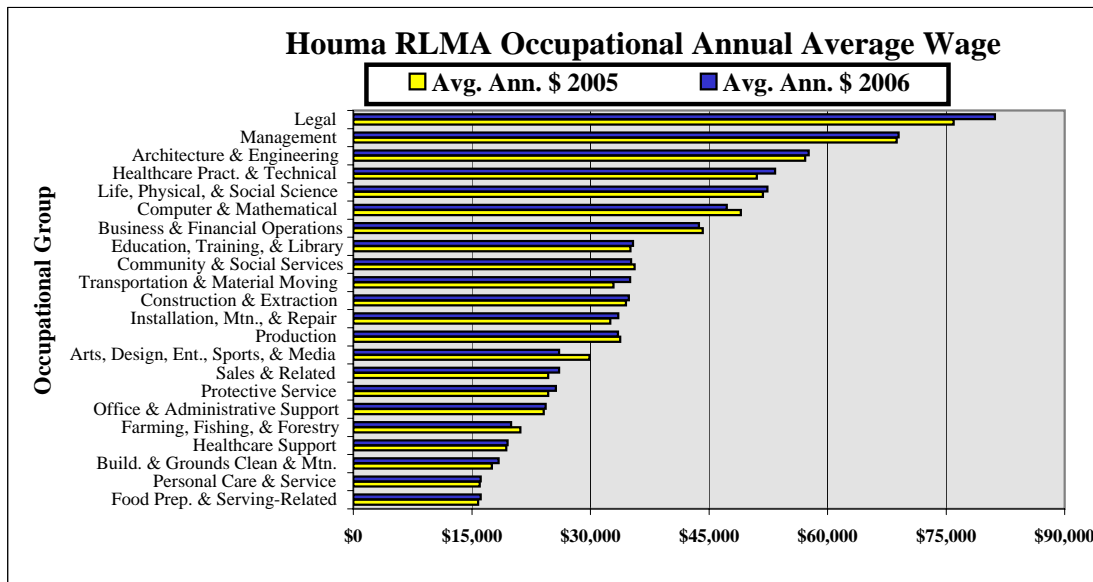
In 2006, nonfarm employment began the year with 85,000 jobs. The average for 2006 was 90,300 compared to an average of 85,200 for 2005, an increase in employment of 5,100 jobs. Service providing average increased by 2,400 more jobs in 2006 than 2005's average. This employment increase in service providing was helped by trade, transportation, and utilities. Both retail trade, and administrative and support services with averages for 2006 up by 300 jobs over 2005's averages, also helped service providing employment increase. Goods producing average increased by 2,700 more jobs in 2006 than in 2005. This employment increase was a result of the construction sector average increasing by 1,200 more jobs in 2006 than the average in 2005. Natural resources and mining average increased by 600 more jobs in 2006 than the average in 2005. None of the super sectors had a month where it lost any employment. This was an indication of the growth in population as well as the MSA's ability to maintain employment conditions and for current employers and for future businesses, thereby creating job opportunities.

The Houma Bayou Cane-Thibodaux MSA is growing as the region experiences different changes and growth in employment. From 2004 to 2006, this MSA's employment grew in both super sectors. Nonfarm annual average employment increased by 7,200 jobs as service providing annual average increased by 3,200 jobs, and goods producing annual average increased by 3,900 jobs. This MSA will continue to focus on growing with new job opportunities for the growing population.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link

[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin)





Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006	
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,785	16,112	Houma RLMA's employment and wages have been steadily increasing over the year. The annual average wage for the Legal occupational group ranked second in the state, preceded only by the Lake Charles RLMA. The trade, transportation and utilities industry is the principal economic driver in the area. Thus, the Transportation & Material Moving occupational group recorded a \$2,113 increase over the year. The Healthcare Practitioners and Technical occupational group posted the second largest increase, moving up \$2,329 annually. Sales and Related occupations grew by \$1,368, with Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents leading the way at \$94,741. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Dentists, General at \$144,567, while the lowest paid was Waiters and Waitresses at \$13,357. For more detailed information, please visit <a href="http://www.LAWORKS.net">www.LAWORKS.net</a> , choose Labor Market Information, then occupational wage data.
Personal Care & Service	\$15,990	16,119	
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$17,548	18,363	
Healthcare Support	\$19,346	19,508	
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$21,127	19,975	
Office & Administrative Support	\$24,076	24,327	
Protective Service	\$24,657	25,639	
Sales & Related	\$24,654	26,022	
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$29,891	26,026	
Production	\$33,774	33,475	
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$32,504	33,534	
Construction & Extraction	\$34,500	34,860	
Transportation & Material Moving	\$32,925	35,038	
Community & Social Services	\$35,600	35,144	
Education, Training, & Library	\$35,059	35,374	
Business & Financial Operations	\$44,200	43,735	
Computer & Mathematical	\$49,027	47,249	
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$51,822	52,396	
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$51,051	53,380	
Architecture & Engineering	\$57,174	57,603	
Management	\$68,765	68,995	
Legal	\$75,935	81,177	

**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.



Regional Labor Market Area 3

**Table JVS 7**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	12	13	35	1.1%	1.5%	3.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	0	0	65	0.0%	0.0%	25.1%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	0	6	136	0.0%	0.3%	5.8%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	4	3	12	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%
Community and Social Services Occupations	3	16	0	0.4%	1.7%	0.0%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	0	3	63	0.0%	1.2%	21.8%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	223	126	514	3.0%	1.7%	8.4%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	29	15	142	0.5%	0.2%	2.5%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	143	0	25	59.6%	0.0%	12.5%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	33	302	386	0.6%	5.0%	5.9%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	8	57	85	0.2%	1.2%	2.2%
Healthcare Support Occupations	58	46	77	3.6%	2.5%	3.7%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	24	83	316	0.5%	1.6%	6.7%
Legal Occupations	0	34	71	0.0%	15.7%	28.3%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Management Occupations	20	22	0	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	72	0	1	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	241	235	223	1.9%	1.9%	1.8%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	278	43	291	19.2%	3.2%	16.6%
Production Occupations	327	446	682	3.9%	5.2%	7.7%
Protective Service Occupations	0	11	253	0.0%	0.8%	21.6%
Sales and Related Occupations	254	254	245	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	339	536	339	2.8%	4.7%	2.4%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,067</b>	<b>2,249</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 3

**Table JVS 8**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	265	130	448	4.5%	2.7%	6.8%
Education & Health Services	342	214	468	1.8%	1.1%	2.6%
Financial Activities	160	148	149	2.9%	2.8%	2.6%
Information	0	12	5	0.0%	1.3%	0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	82	222	217	1.3%	3.1%	2.9%
Manufacturing	177	419	538	1.9%	4.5%	5.5%
Natural Resources & Mining	249	66	83	3.7%	1.0%	1.2%
Other Services	79	111	167	3.7%	5.3%	7.4%
Professional & Business Services	89	225	820	1.1%	2.7%	9.1%
Public Administration	*	182	198	*	5.9%	6.6%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	624	521	869	2.9%	2.4%	3.7%
Unclassified	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,067</b>	<b>2,249</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 3**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 2,067 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.4 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were nearly two and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (624) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation, and utilities (Table JVS 8), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in transportation and material moving with 339 (Table JVS 7). Approximately 75 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Houma regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 70 percent of the vacancies. Vacancies that paid wages of \$7.00 or less amounted to slightly more than 40 percent. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; personal and home care aides; customer service representatives; sailors and marine oilers; and captains, mates and pilots of water vessels. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

In comparison, there were 2,249 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.5 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately two and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (521) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 8), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in transportation and material moving with 536 (Table JVS 7). Approximately 60 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Houma regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly more than 75 percent of the job vacancies. A little more than 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; captains, mates and pilots of water vessels; waiters and waitresses; welders, cutters, solderers and brazers; and retail salespersons. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

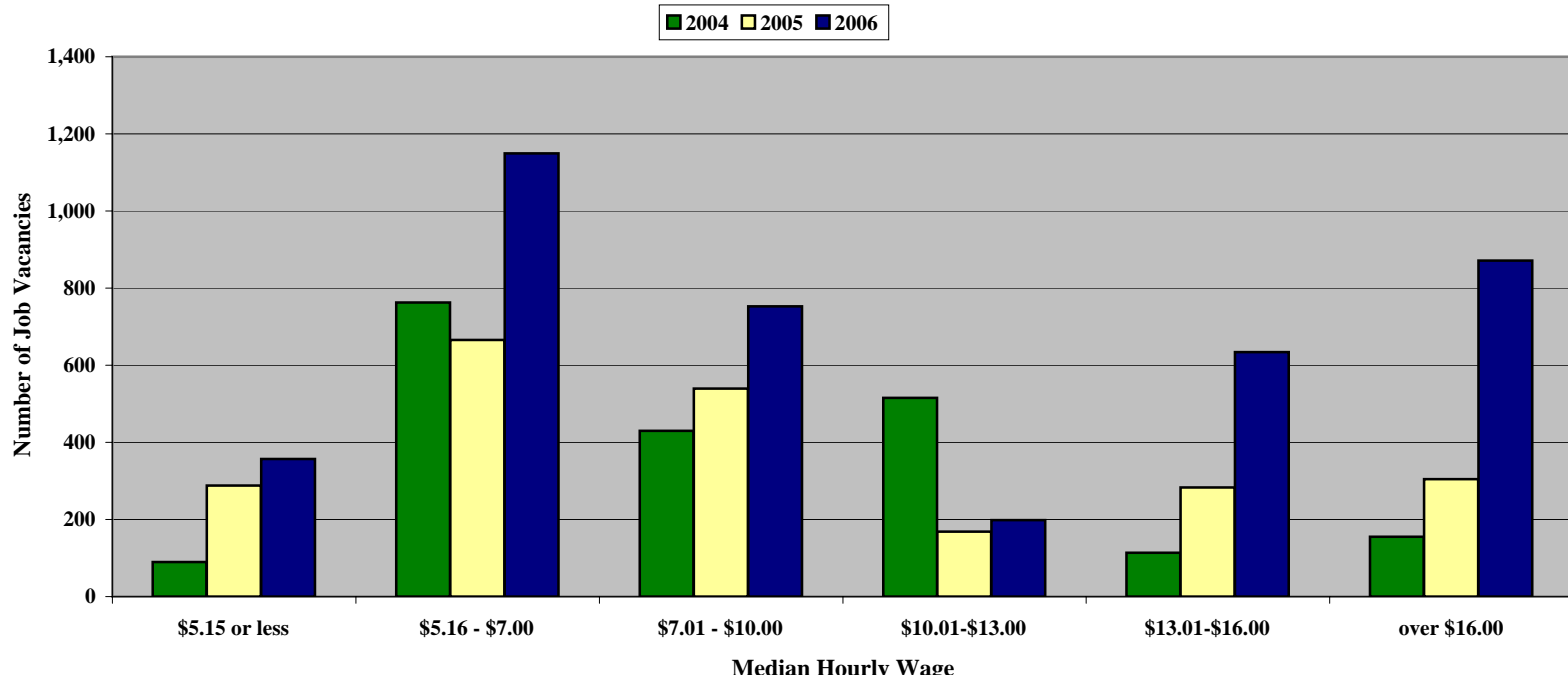
In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 3,962 job vacancies reported resulting in a 4.3 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately 4 vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (869) was in trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 8), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in production with 682 (Table JVS 7). Job vacancy positions required a high school diploma or less in slightly more than 70 percent of the vacancies, while Houma regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in 61 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly less than 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were welders, cutters, solderers and brazers; captains, mates and pilots of water vessels; personal and home care aids; operating engineers and other construction equipment operators; and cashiers. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people who wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted.

Regional Labor Market Area 3

The number of job vacancies reported was up almost 10 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased more than 75 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Trade, transportation and utilities was the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies in all three years. The transportation and material moving occupational group had the largest number of vacancies in 2004 and 2005. However, the production occupational group had the largest number of vacancies in 2006. The 872 vacancies in the hourly median wage category of over \$16.00 was a 186 percent increase over 2005 vacancies as seen in Figure JVS 4. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

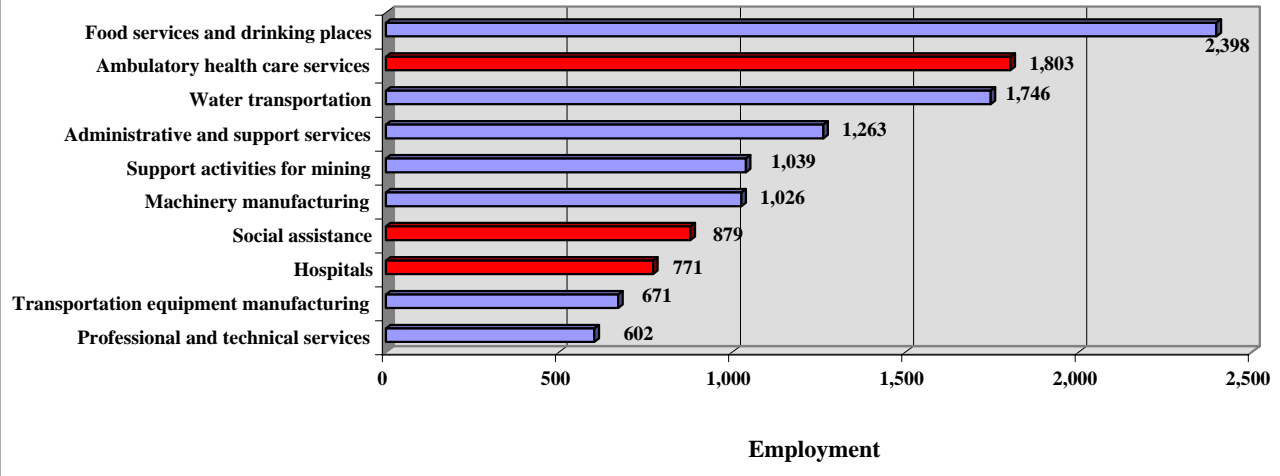
**RLMA 3 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results**

Figure: JVS 4



### Fastest Growing Industries in the Houma Region by 2014

*Health Care and Social Assistance will need the most workers!*



The Houma regional labor market is expected to add 18,550 workers or 19.5 percent by 2014. The industry projections show that these workers will be needed in a wide variety of industry sectors giving workers many options for their work environments.

Food services and drinking places was one of the fastest growing industries across the state as well as nationally. Growth in this industry serves as a stepping stone for young people entering our labor force to obtain their first job. The on-the-job-training educational requirements help jump start individuals into the world of work. This industry serves as their first time job experiences teaching punctuality, team work, and respect for others.

The ambulatory health care services industry is expected to add 1,803 workers to the three-parish region. Workers in this industry segment will staff offices of physicians, dentists, and other health care practioners. Home health care services also falls under the health care umbrella. Social assistance and hospitals will need another 1,650 to make health care the fastest growing industry sector in region 3.

Water transportation is the third fastest growing industry in region 3. This demand is in part caused by the increased activity at the oil and gas platforms in the Gulf of Mexico. This industry includes freight as well as passenger water transportation.

Employment growth in administrative support services also reflects the demand for workers in the oil and gas industries. Some of the largest employing sectors in this industry are employment placement services and temporary help services. Both of these industries provide critical staff for companies that often lead to permanent positions with employers hiring them. Telemarketing bureaus, collection agencies , travel agencies and security services are also in the broad industry.

Employment in the energy sector for region 3 will continue as the support activities for oil and gas operations add 1,039 workers.

Job growth in manufacturing is another sign of a robust economic outlook. Both machinery and transportation equipment manufacturing are expected to need a total of 1,697 additional workers. Workers in these industries earn an average of \$997 a week.

Professional and technical services are projected to increase by 620 workers by 2014. Employers in this industry include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services as well as photography studios are also included in this industry sector.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 3 : Assumption, Lafourche, & Terrebonne

Occupational Title	Annual Total Openings 2004 - 2014	Regional Annual Average Wage	Minimum Educational Requirements
Cashiers	220	\$14,499	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	210	\$19,278	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>\$37,108</b>	<b>Postsecondary voc.</b>
Captains, Mates, and Pilots of Water Vessels	180	\$56,489	Work Exp. in a related occ.
Retail Salespersons	170	\$19,206	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Waiters and Waitresses	120	\$13,040	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Sailors and Marine Oilers	120	\$31,438	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>General and Operations Managers</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>\$81,433</b>	<b>Wk Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher degree</b>
<b>Elementary School Teachers, Ex. Special Education</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>\$37,097</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
<b>Registered Nurses</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>\$50,112</b>	<b>Associate degree</b>
Food Preparation Workers	70	\$13,938	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	70	\$27,720	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Ship Engineers</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>\$55,764</b>	<b>Postsecondary voc.</b>
Janitors & Cleaners, Ex. Maids & Housekeeping			
Cleaners	60	\$16,904	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Office Clerks, General	60	\$19,584	Short-term Tng. & Exp.

Occupations with the most annual openings in region three reflected diverse growth through out most major industry sectors. The growth in manufacturing, water transportation, food services and education industries are all reflected in the chart above of the fastest growing occupations ranked by annual growth.

Cashiers are in top demand across the United States as well as statewide. Workers starting their first jobs in these occupations quickly move up as they master the skills of punctuality, following directions, and attention to details. This occupation serves as an entry level position and for this reason generally has a greater degree of turnover.

Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers workers can be found unloading cargo ships, working in warehouses, and in many large retail outlets.

Retail salespersons and waiters and waitresses all serve as entry levels jobs for those seeking part time jobs with flexible hours. Businesses open for ten hours or longer a day need multiple shifts of workers creating a higher demand for employees than businesses with eight hour work days.

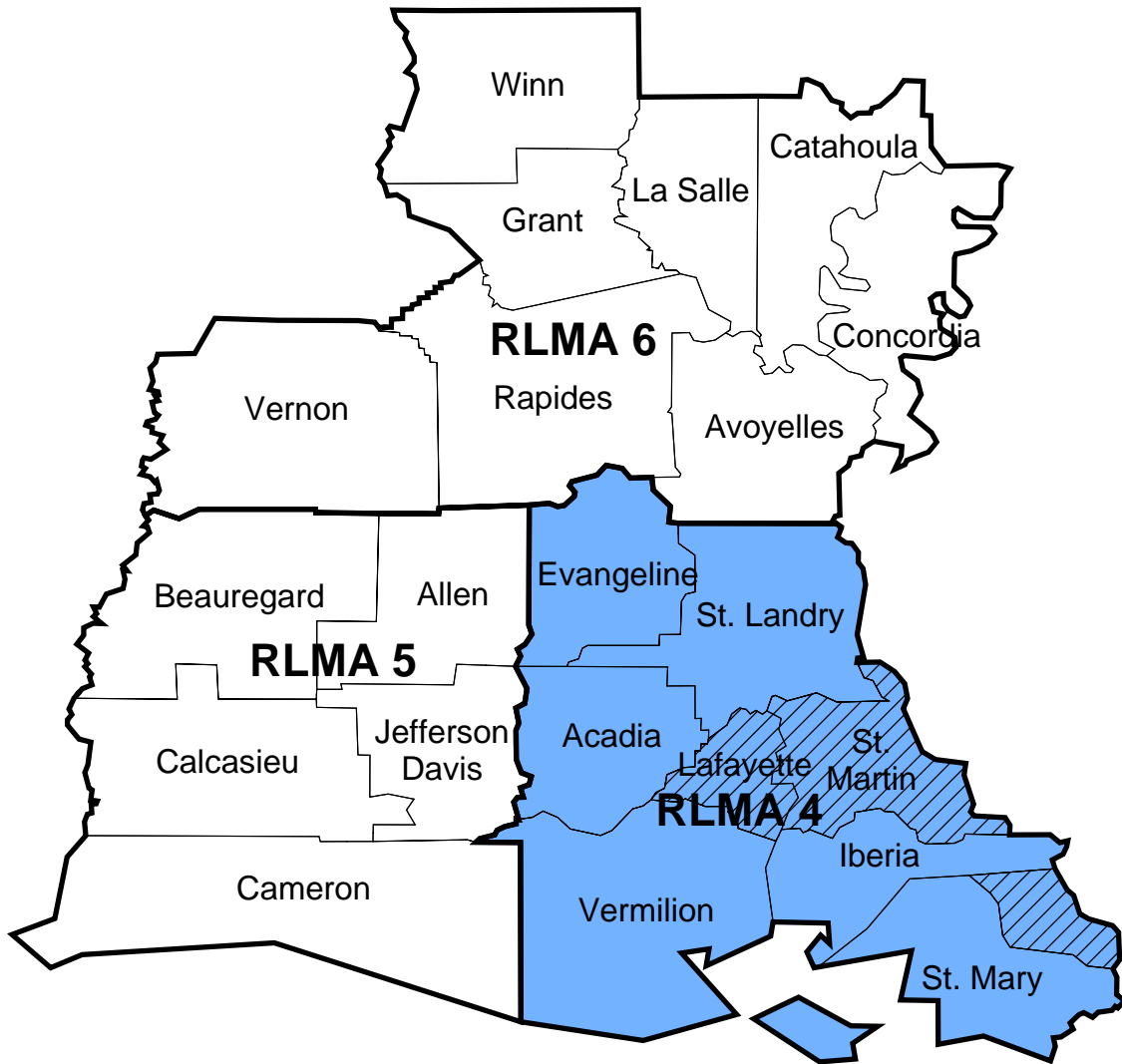
Sailors and marine oilers and ship engineers are found in the water transportation industry. Workers in these industries have to be able to work on ships and with heavy equipment. Though ship engineer is the more technical occupation, sailors and marine oilers can work up to engineer with additional training and experience.

General and operations managers will be in demand because workers with these skills can work in a variety of industries. They can be anyone from the business owner, store manager, chief operating officer or director of operations. As new businesses come into region three they will be looking for individuals with managerial skills to run their companies.

Truck drivers are in high demand nationally as well as in region three. Workers are needed to move products from ports, farms, and manufacturers to warehouses across the state and country.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

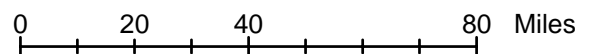
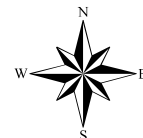
# Louisiana Regional Labor Market Area 4 and Lafayette MSA



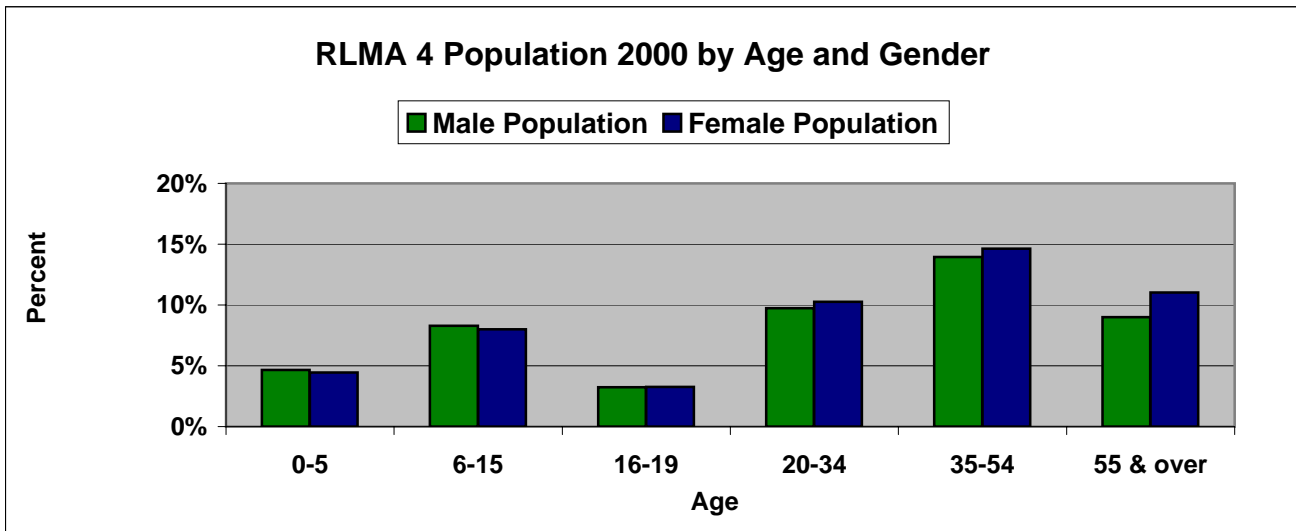
## Legend

- RLMA 4
- Lafayette MSA

Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
Research and Statistics GIS Program  
August 2007



Regional Labor Market Area 4: Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 4	601,654	54,786	98,026	39,055	120,299	172,038	117,450
Males	291,038	28,074	49,876	19,486	58,510	83,981	51,111
Females	310,616	26,712	48,150	19,569	61,789	88,057	66,339

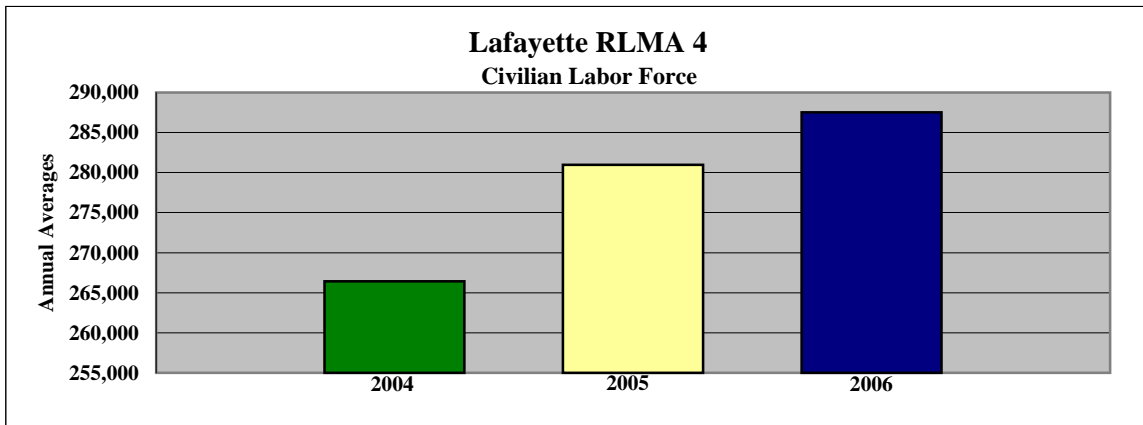
Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 4	100%	9%	16%	6%	20%	29%	20%
Males	49%	5%	8%	3%	10%	14%	9%
Females	51%	4%	8%	3%	10%	15%	11%

Regional Labor Market Area 4 (RLMA 4) population in 2000 reflected a higher percentage of males (49 percent) and a lower percentage of females (51 percent) when compared to the statewide population (48 percent and 52 percent respectively). The male population out paced the females from birth to 5 years old. Ages 6 to 35 shared the same percentage rates for both males and females. Beginning with the 35 year olds the females began to claim a higher percentage of the RLMA 4 population by 1 to 2 percentage points.



## Regional Labor Market Area 4

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
ACADIA	23,927	5.4%	25,505	5.7%	25,712	3.2%
EVANGELINE	11,758	6.4%	12,187	6.7%	12,116	4.1%
IBERIA	31,253	5.8%	32,787	6.2%	34,099	3.3%
<b>LAFAYETTE</b>	98,640	4.2%	104,624	4.9%	107,747	2.7%
ST. LANDRY	34,494	6.1%	37,151	6.7%	37,475	3.9%
<b>ST. MARTIN</b>	21,731	5.3%	22,777	5.6%	23,421	3.3%
ST. MARY	21,775	8.1%	22,464	8.2%	23,057	4.1%
VERMILION	22,860	5.5%	23,478	5.6%	23,880	3.4%



Lafayette RLMA has displayed increases in its labor force from 2004 to 2006. The region's labor force increased by about 21,000 in three years, with most of the increase seen from 2004 to 2005. The largest gain is primarily in Lafayette parish, increasing about 9,000 in total labor force during the 2004 to 2006 period. All areas within the regional labor market area with the exception of Evangeline parish posted increases in the labor force from 2004 to 2006. The Lafayette region also had employment increases over the same three year period. As with most areas in the state, there was an increase in the unemployed levels in 2005, but those levels decreased in 2006. The unemployment rates in the Lafayette area remained among the lowest in the state, most notably the lowest annual average for 2006 with a 2.7 percent unemployment rate. The labor market in Lafayette seems to be right for continued growth, especially if the area's labor force continues to grow and unemployment remains low.

**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.

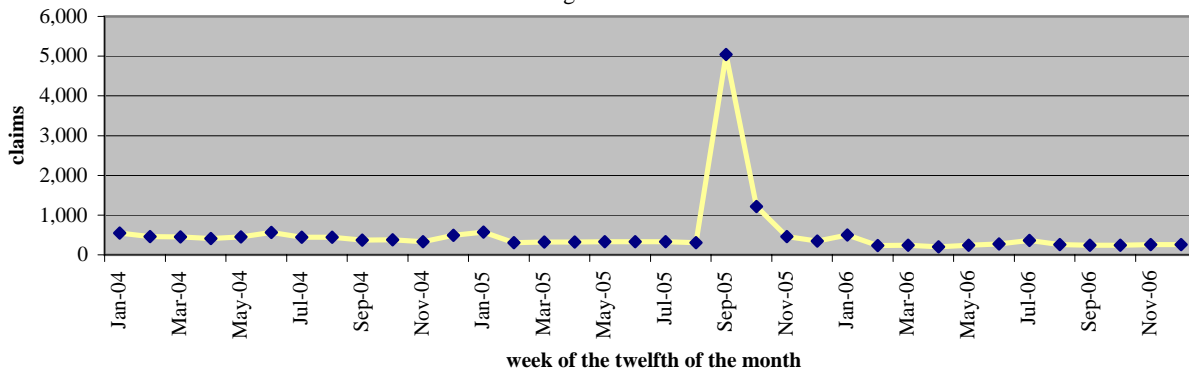
\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 4

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 4</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>3,797</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>6,652</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>2,811</b>
ACADIA	31	290	83	607	20	206
EVANGELINE	16	159	39	290	13	135
IBERIA	69	550	89	850	46	322
<b>LAFAYETTE</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>895</b>
ST. LANDRY	65	559	135	1,035	51	494
<b>ST. MARTIN</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>214</b>
ST. MARY	78	653	100	843	27	315
VERMILION	37	319	61	466	22	230

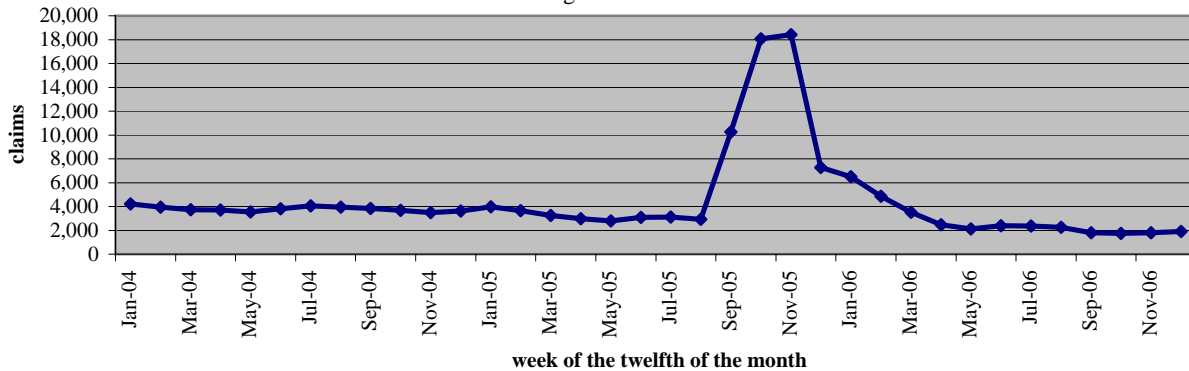
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 13



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 14

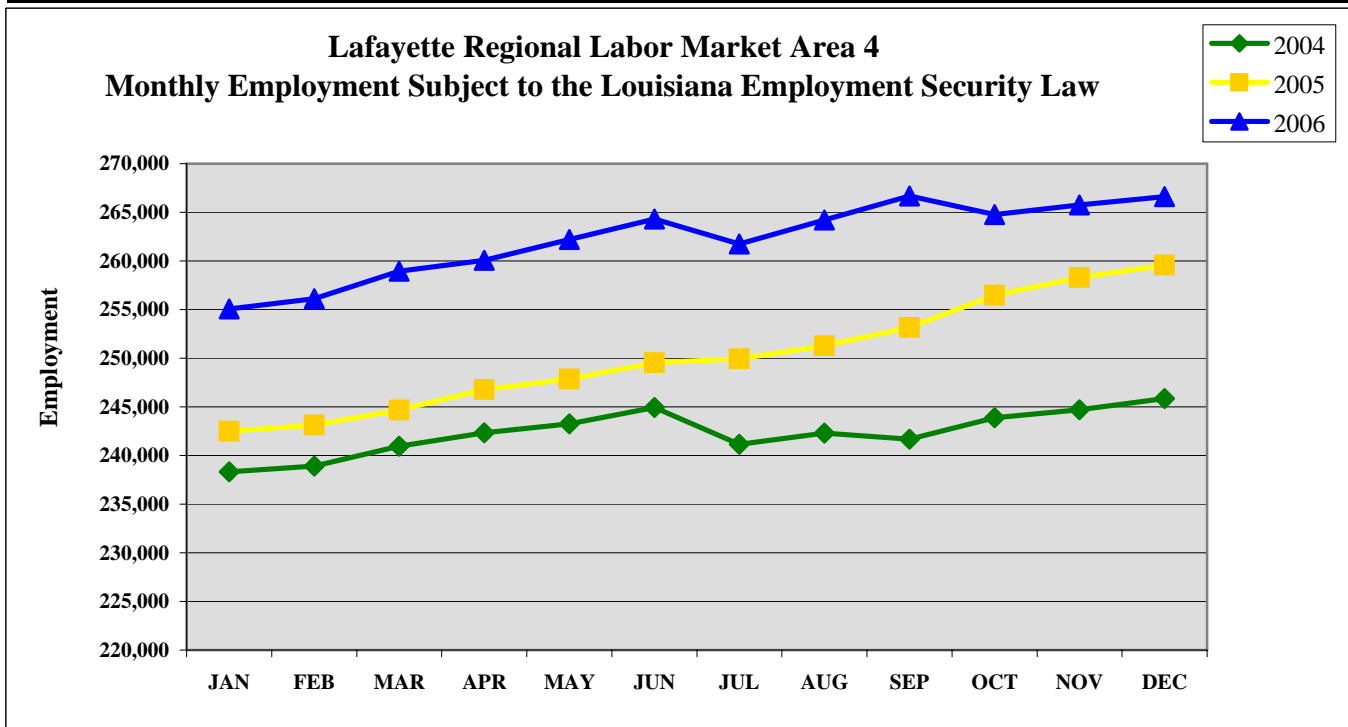


\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 4 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Lafayette RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 4). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Lafayette MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 4 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 13 and UI 14 indicate the number of claims in the Lafayette RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Lafayette RLMA claims were severely affected by the 2005 hurricane season. Initial Claims increased from 304 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 5,045 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in December 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 2,935 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 18,426 claims for the same week in November 2005. In March 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels and continued to decline for the rest of 2006. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 1,980 claims for the week of the twelfth. Acadia and Evangeline parishes had the largest percentage increases in Annual Average Weekly Initial Claims due to the storms while Acadia and Lafayette parishes had the largest percentage increases in Annual Average Continued Weeks Claimed due to the storms (Table UI 4).

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 19,726 or 8.1 percent (Table 5 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 6.0 percent and 16.1 percent, respectively. Employment increased in all 8 of the parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 10.2 percent in Iberia parish, to the smallest increase of 0.8 percent in St. Martin parish. Professional and technical services had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 169 units, a 9.8 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in management of companies and enterprises with an increase of \$302, a 36.5 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr)

Table 5 Units

## RLMA 4 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>16,224</b>	<b>16,383</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>17,362</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	226	219	-3.2%	212	-3.0%	208	-1.9%	-4.8%	
Mining	577	548	-5.0%	532	-2.8%	552	3.8%	0.8%	
Utilities	148	150	1.0%	150	0.3%	145	-3.3%	-3.0%	
Construction	1,368	1,389	1.5%	1,445	4.1%	1,515	4.8%	9.1%	
Manufacturing	709	708	-0.1%	757	6.9%	793	4.8%	12.0%	
Wholesale Trade	1,001	1,014	1.3%	1,015	0.1%	1,046	3.1%	3.1%	
Retail Trade	2,463	2,481	0.7%	2,470	-0.4%	2,505	1.4%	1.0%	
Transportation & Warehousing	602	589	-2.0%	606	2.8%	651	7.4%	10.5%	
Information	180	177	-1.9%	188	6.4%	190	1.1%	7.5%	
Finance & Insurance	1,023	1,056	3.2%	1,121	6.2%	1,154	2.9%	9.3%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	784	788	0.5%	806	2.3%	849	5.3%	7.8%	
Professional & Technical Services	1,696	1,729	1.9%	1,792	3.7%	1,898	5.9%	9.8%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	77	76	-0.7%	75	-1.6%	79	5.3%	3.6%	
Administrative & Waste Services	630	661	5.0%	705	6.7%	720	2.1%	9.0%	
Educational Services	103	109	5.8%	115	5.7%	118	2.6%	8.5%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,654	1,713	3.5%	1,786	4.3%	1,864	4.4%	8.8%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	209	210	0.7%	219	4.2%	218	-0.5%	3.7%	
Accommodation & Food Services	868	877	1.0%	916	4.5%	950	3.7%	8.4%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	1,314	1,303	-0.8%	1,276	-2.1%	1,272	-0.3%	-2.4%	
Public Administration	512	505	-1.4%	500	-0.9%	490	-2.0%	-2.9%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 16,383 (Table 5 Units), up 1.0 percent compared to 16,224 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 2,481 and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises with 76 units.

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 16,800 (Table 5 Units), up 2.5 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 2,470 and the smallest number of annual average units was 75 found in the management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 17,362 (Table 5 Units), up 3.3 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 2,505 and the smallest number of annual average units was 79 found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 5 Wage

## RLMA 4 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 4</b>	<b>\$586</b>	<b>\$605</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>\$638</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>\$703</b>	<b>10.2%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	406	396	-2.5%	404	2.0%	442	9.4%	11.6%
Mining	1,060	1,135	7.1%	1,221	7.6%	1,343	10.0%	18.3%
Utilities	659	664	0.8%	713	7.4%	734	2.9%	10.6%
Construction	627	654	4.4%	694	6.1%	803	15.7%	22.7%
Manufacturing	669	704	5.2%	731	3.9%	807	10.4%	14.7%
Wholesale Trade	713	748	4.9%	793	6.0%	863	8.8%	15.4%
Retail Trade	376	384	2.0%	405	5.5%	430	6.2%	12.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	753	798	6.0%	805	0.8%	899	11.7%	12.6%
Information	591	612	3.5%	639	4.5%	650	1.7%	6.3%
Finance & Insurance	694	725	4.5%	881	21.4%	862	-2.2%	18.8%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	718	748	4.1%	800	7.0%	970	21.3%	29.7%
Professional & Technical Services	780	825	5.8%	868	5.2%	938	8.1%	13.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	779	827	6.2%	953	15.2%	1,129	18.5%	36.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	475	497	4.4%	548	10.4%	641	17.0%	29.1%
Educational Services	552	560	1.5%	558	-0.4%	595	6.6%	6.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	529	544	2.8%	560	2.9%	584	4.3%	7.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	285	292	2.8%	313	7.0%	329	5.1%	12.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	202	205	1.4%	220	7.3%	247	12.3%	20.4%
Other Services, except Public Administration	432	440	1.9%	468	6.4%	533	13.9%	21.1%
Public Administration	537	566	5.5%	578	2.2%	588	1.7%	3.9%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$217 million to register a gain of 2.9 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$19 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$605 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,135 in the mining sector to a low of \$205 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 5 Wage. St. Mary parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$659 while St. Martin parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$438.

Total wages for 2005 increased \$677 million to register a gain of 8.9 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$638, which was an average increase of \$33 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,221 in the mining sector to a low of \$220 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 5 Wage. St. Mary parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$696 while Evangeline parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$451.

Total wages for 2006 increased approximately \$1.3 billion to register a gain of 15.4 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$703, which was an average increase of \$65 from 2005. The mining sector (\$1,343) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$247) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 5 Wage. St. Mary parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$787 and Evangeline parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$484.

## Table 5 Employment

## RLMA 4 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>243,106</b>	<b>242,302</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>250,175</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>262,028</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	1,796	1,833	2.0%	1,619	-11.7%	1,413	-12.7%	-22.9%	
Mining	21,635	19,633	-9.3%	19,801	0.9%	22,070	11.5%	12.4%	
Utilities	1,460	1,524	4.4%	1,516	-0.5%	1,520	0.3%	-0.2%	
Construction	16,623	16,208	-2.5%	16,162	-0.3%	17,235	6.6%	6.3%	
Manufacturing	20,623	19,448	-5.7%	21,038	8.2%	23,066	9.6%	18.6%	
Wholesale Trade	10,918	10,840	-0.7%	10,956	1.1%	11,487	4.8%	6.0%	
Retail Trade	32,614	31,273	-4.1%	31,985	2.3%	32,452	1.5%	3.8%	
Transportation & Warehousing	11,179	10,889	-2.6%	11,804	8.4%	12,609	6.8%	15.8%	
Information	4,119	4,348	5.6%	4,591	5.6%	4,577	-0.3%	5.3%	
Finance & Insurance	6,795	6,914	1.7%	7,356	6.4%	7,561	2.8%	9.4%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	7,130	7,376	3.5%	7,663	3.9%	7,880	2.8%	6.8%	
Professional & Technical Services	8,730	9,084	4.1%	9,211	1.4%	9,771	6.1%	7.6%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	3,038	2,945	-3.1%	2,996	1.7%	3,355	12.0%	13.9%	
Administrative & Waste Services	9,171	9,386	2.3%	10,210	8.8%	11,569	13.3%	23.3%	
Educational Services	19,280	19,648	1.9%	20,149	2.6%	20,200	0.3%	2.8%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	31,782	33,288	4.7%	34,537	3.8%	35,354	2.4%	6.2%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	4,180	4,879	16.7%	4,677	-4.1%	5,077	8.6%	4.1%	
Accommodation & Food Services	17,344	18,119	4.5%	19,091	5.4%	19,748	3.4%	9.0%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	6,244	6,233	-0.2%	6,248	0.2%	6,552	4.9%	5.1%	
Public Administration	8,291	8,258	-0.4%	8,360	1.2%	8,307	-0.6%	0.6%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 242,302 in the Lafayette RLMA (Table 5 Employment), a decrease of 0.3 percent when compared to 243,106 in 2003. Employment in 3 of the 8 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 4.3 percent in St. Landry parish, to the largest decrease of 4.4 percent in St. Mary parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Lafayette RLMA with 33,288 employees, or 13.7 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 37,328, or 15.4 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 1,905 (0.8 percent); state workers averaged 5,987 (2.5 percent); and local government workers averaged 29,436 (12.2 percent), while the private sector made up 84.6 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 250,175 (Table 5 Employment), an increase of 3.2 percent when compared to 242,302 in 2004. Employment in 7 of the 8 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 6.1 percent in St. Landry parish, to a decrease of 0.3 percent in Vermilion parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Lafayette RLMA with 34,537 employees, or 13.8 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 38,116, or 15.2 percent of total employment, which was slightly up from 2004. Federal workers averaged 1,873 (0.8 percent); state workers averaged 6,108 (2.4 percent); and local government workers averaged 30,135 (12.1 percent), while the private sector made up 84.8 percent of employment.

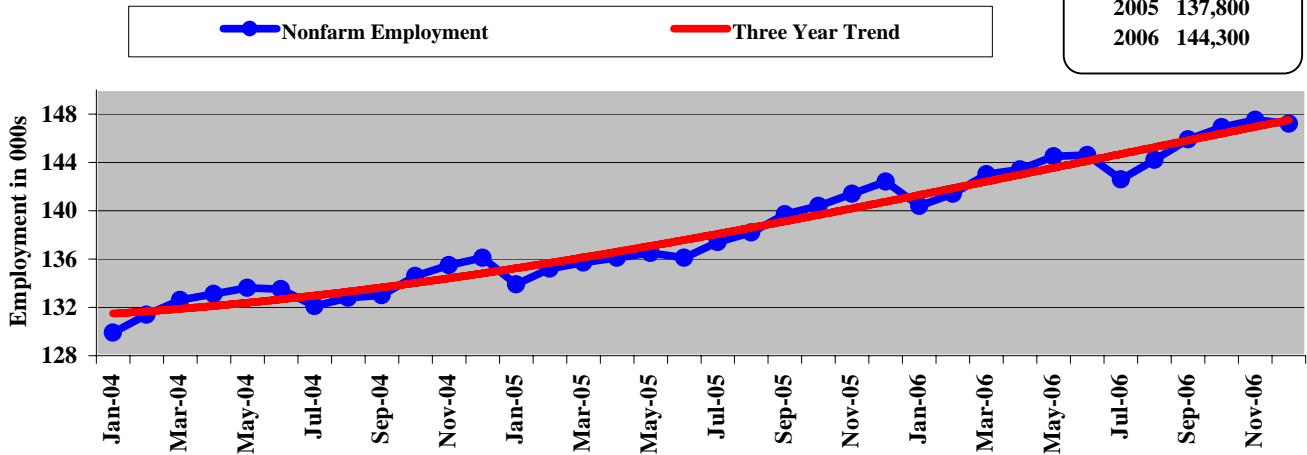
Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 262,028 (Table 5 Employment), an increase of 4.7 percent when compared to 250,175 in 2005. Employment in 6 of the 8 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 7.3 percent in Iberia parish, to the largest decrease of 0.7 percent in Evangeline parish. Health care and social assistance continued to be the leading industry in the Lafayette RLMA with 35,354 employees, or 13.5 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 38,588, or 14.7 percent of total employment, which was up slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 1,887 (0.7 percent); state workers averaged 6,203 (2.4 percent); and local government workers averaged 30,498 (11.6 percent), while the private sector made up 85.3 percent of employment.

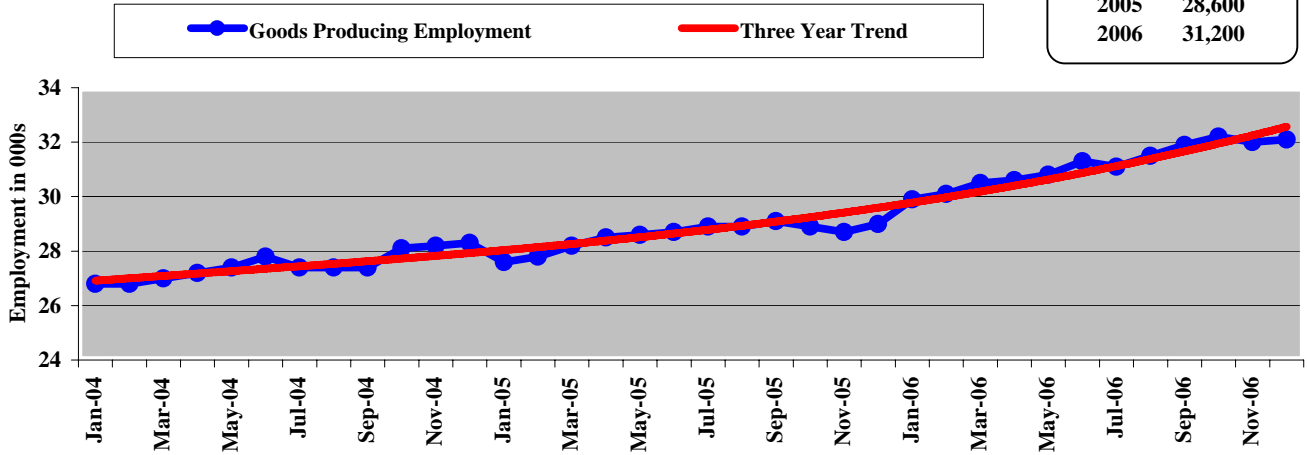


Metropolitan Statistical Area : Lafayette and St. Martin Parishes

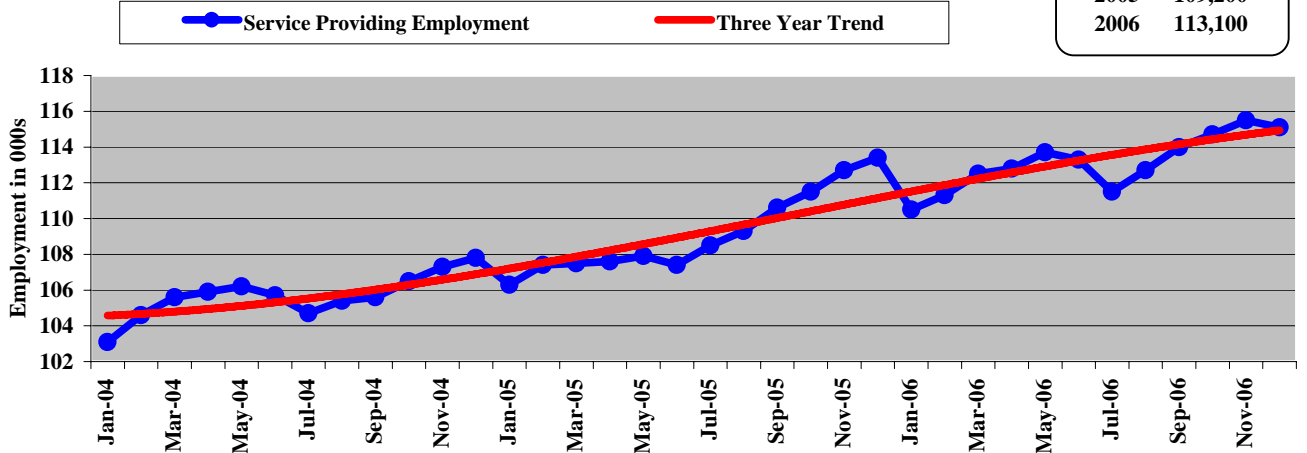
**Lafayette MSA Nonfarm Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Lafayette MSA Goods Producing Employment  
2004-2006**



**Lafayette MSA Service Providing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



The Lafayette Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the fourth largest metropolitan statistical area in Louisiana. The MSA consists of Lafayette parish and St. Martin parish. This MSA's nonfarm annual average of 144,300 jobs for 2006 was the highest it ever has been. The nonfarm annual average employment increased by 5 percent more than in 2005. The Lafayette MSA has reached new heights and an analysis over the past 3 years (2004-2006) of completed data and annual averages will be done to track the MSA's employment performance.

For the year 2004, nonfarm employment began the year at 129,900 jobs. The nonfarm annual average for 2004 was 133,200 compared to 2003's average of 133,600, a decrease in employment of 400 jobs. Goods producing, with an annual average for 2004 of 27,500 compared to the average of 29,400 for 2003, had a 1,900-job loss. The loss in jobs in goods producing can be attributed to natural resources & construction, which had an annual average loss of 2,200 jobs from 2003 to 2004. Service providing, with an annual average for 2004 of 105,700 compared to the average for 2003 of 104,200, gained 1,500 jobs. This gain can be attributed to health care and social assistance, which had an annual average gain of 1,100 jobs from 2003 to 2004; and leisure and hospitality, which had an annual average gain of 600 jobs from 2003 to 2004.

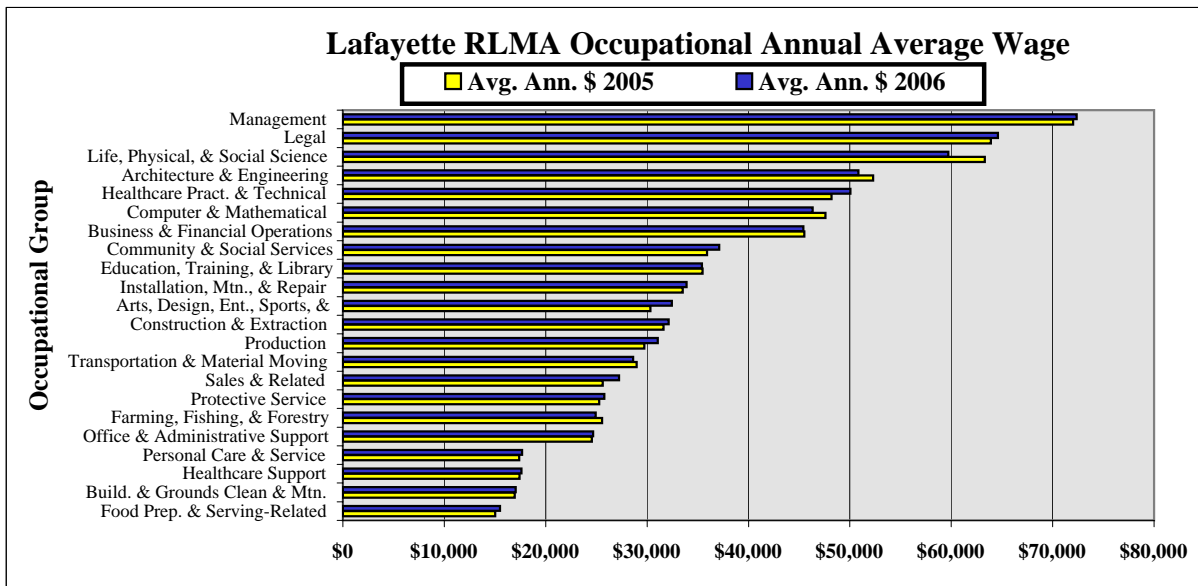
In 2005, nonfarm employment began the year with 133,900 jobs. The nonfarm annual average for 2005 was 137,800 compared to the average for 2004 of 133,200, an increase in employment of 4,600 jobs. During the year, there were two major natural disasters, hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which made this MSA a major safe haven resulting in a growth in population that had a great effect on employment. Service providing annual average increased by 3,500 more jobs in 2005 than in 2004. This growth can be attributed to increases in the sectors of trade, transportation, and utilities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality, with all having annual average changes of 600 or more jobs in 2005 than in 2004. Goods producing annual average employment increased by 1,100 more jobs than in 2004. The manufacturing sector influenced goods producing growth with an annual average growth of 500 more jobs in 2005. With the influx of people, future employment should rise.

In 2006, nonfarm employment began the year with 140,400 jobs. The nonfarm average for 2006 was 144,300 compared to 2005's average of 137,800, an increase in employment of 6,500 jobs. Goods producing annual average increased 2,600 more jobs than in 2005. Goods producing employment was influenced by natural resources & mining average increasing by 1,900 more jobs than in 2005. Manufacturing annual average also increased by 600 more jobs than in 2005. Service providing annual average increased 4,600 more jobs than in 2005. Professional & business services influenced service providing employment growth with an average growth of 1,700 more jobs than in 2005. Trade, transportation, and utilities, and leisure and hospitality, both had averages that were 700 more than in 2005. There was also growth in the averages in wholesale trade, retail trade, financial activities, and educational and health services.

The Lafayette MSA is reaching new heights. For the time period of 2004 to 2006, this MSA increased nonfarm annual average employment by 11,100 jobs. Service providing average increased by 7,400 jobs and goods producing average increased by 3,700 jobs. In the future, the Lafayette MSA is looking to continue the growth it has had and also tap into new sources such as The LITE (Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise) to provide and bring new job opportunities to the MSA. The MSA, with the new growth in population, is maintaining growth in employment and will look to add to the growth experienced.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link

[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,021	15,484
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$16,948	17,030
Healthcare Support	\$17,424	17,622
Personal Care & Service	\$17,397	17,683
Office & Administrative Support	\$24,568	24,666
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$25,556	24,934
Protective Service	\$25,263	25,787
Sales & Related	\$25,639	27,224
Transportation & Material Moving	\$28,955	28,631
Production	\$29,731	31,053
Construction & Extraction	\$31,607	32,131
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$30,322	32,442
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$33,529	33,882
Education, Training, & Library	\$35,480	35,417
Community & Social Services	\$35,915	37,101
Business & Financial Operations	\$45,518	45,426
Computer & Mathematical	\$47,575	46,338
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$48,184	50,044
Architecture & Engineering	\$52,290	50,854
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$63,296	59,708
Legal	\$63,920	64,603
Management	\$72,009	72,367

The Lafayette RLMAs top two occupational groups reporting positive growth over the 2005 annual average were Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media followed by Healthcare Practitioners & Technical, up by \$2,120 and \$1,860, respectively. The Sales and Related occupational group was third in growth from 2005 annual average, up \$1,585. Within this group, the Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents recorded the highest annual average at \$78,978. The largest decrease over the year occurred in the Life, Physical, and Social Science occupations, declining by \$3,588. The primary contributor to the loss was Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists, decreasing from \$58,542 in 2005 to \$44,218 in 2006. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Obstetricians and Gynecologists at \$192,593, while the lowest paid occupation was Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Others at \$12,879. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

## Regional Labor Market Area 4

Table JVS 9

## By Occupational Group[

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	73	90	204	1.7%	2.1%	4.4%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	77	223	461	1.2%	3.4%	7.1%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	21	263	470	0.4%	5.0%	8.6%
Community and Social Services Occupations	36	5	401	1.5%	0.2%	14.2%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	77	11	132	5.4%	0.9%	11.5%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	819	1,577	2,993	4.0%	8.1%	16.7%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	108	28	285	0.9%	0.2%	2.2%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	2	33	105	0.5%	8.8%	29.2%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	782	556	849	4.2%	2.9%	4.4%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	789	522	1,189	6.1%	3.9%	8.4%
Healthcare Support Occupations	261	272	244	4.3%	4.0%	3.3%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	602	921	1,981	4.0%	5.7%	12.7%
Legal Occupations	0	0	77	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	43	37	65	4.4%	3.0%	4.5%
Management Occupations	52	110	18	0.4%	1.0%	0.2%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	195	19	205	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	1,034	918	1,612	2.6%	2.3%	3.9%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	455	118	1,147	9.9%	2.4%	22.0%
Production Occupations	557	421	2,713	2.6%	2.1%	12.3%
Protective Service Occupations	58	25	262	1.3%	0.6%	6.3%
Sales and Related Occupations	1,191	372	1,217	4.6%	1.4%	4.4%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	1,212	907	2,265	5.9%	4.1%	10.2%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>8,444</b>	<b>7,431</b>	<b>18,894</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

## Regional Labor Market Area 4

**Table JVS 10**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	870	1008	1,956	5.1%	6.3%	11.1%
Education & Health Services	1,456	1134	3,781	2.8%	2.1%	6.8%
Financial Activities	666	419	514	4.8%	2.9%	3.4%
Information	289	30	6	6.7%	0.7%	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,320	1047	1,065	6.3%	4.4%	4.2%
Manufacturing	579	387	1,862	2.8%	1.8%	8.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	504	1412	939	2.2%	6.6%	4.1%
Other Services	25	347	1,219	0.4%	5.6%	18.7%
Professional & Business Services	693	483	2,270	3.3%	2.2%	9.3%
Public Administration	*	207	707	*	2.5%	8.5%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	2,043	959	3,180	3.6%	1.7%	5.5%
Unclassified	0	0	1,395	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>8,444</b>	<b>7431</b>	<b>18,894</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 4**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 8,444 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.6 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were a little more than three and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (2,043) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 10), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in transportation and material moving with 1,212 (Table JVS 9). The majority of the job vacancies (75 percent) required a high school diploma or less, while Lafayette regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 65 percent of the vacancies. Nearly half of all job vacancies paid wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were sailors and marine oilers; retail salespersons; cashiers; waiters and waitresses; and registered nurses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

In comparison, there were 7,431 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.0 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,412) was found in the industry group of natural resources and mining (Table JVS 10), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in construction and extraction with 1,577 (Table JVS 9). Two thirds (66 percent) of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Lafayette regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly less than 70 percent of the job vacancies. Almost 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; cashiers; mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines; truck drivers, light or delivery service; and derrick, rotary drill and service unit operators, oil, gas and mining. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

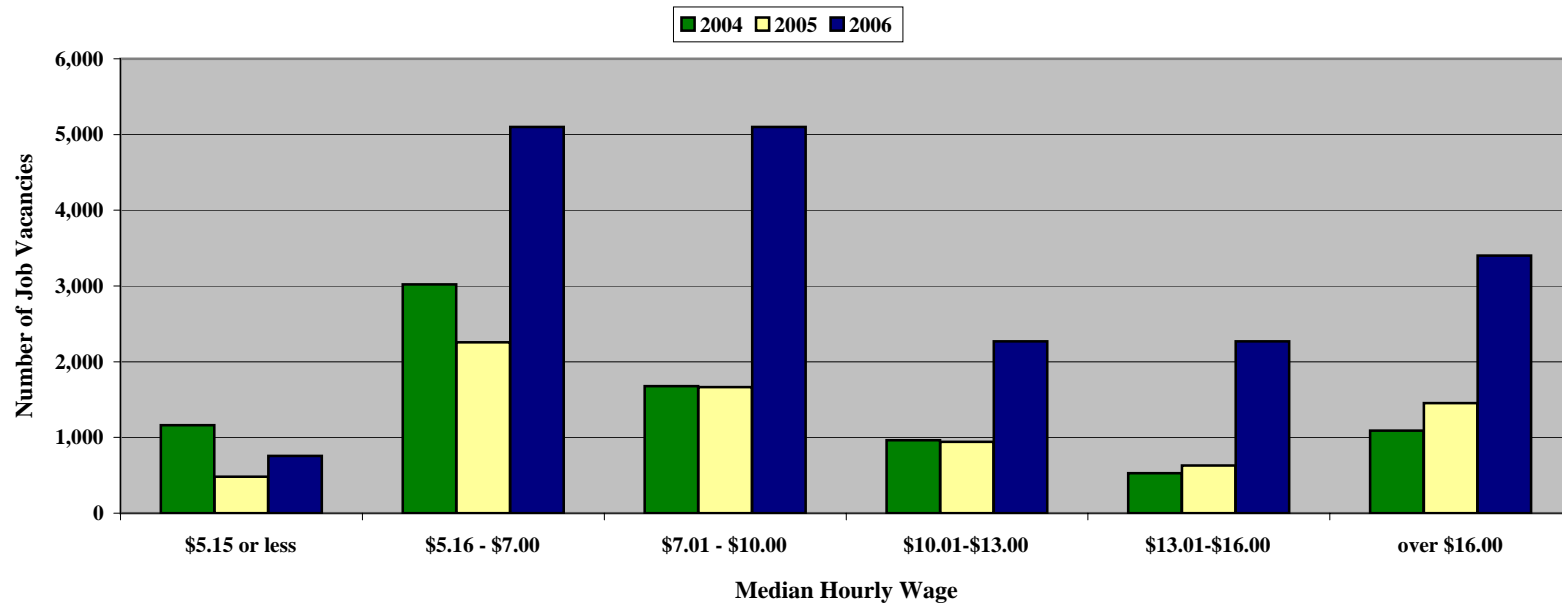
In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 18,894 job vacancies reported resulting in a 7.2 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately seven vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (3,781) was in education and health services (Table JVS 10), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in construction and extraction with 2,993 (Table JVS 9). Over 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Lafayette regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly less than 70 percent of the job vacancies. More than 50 percent of the job vacancies paid \$5.16 to \$10.00 as seen in Figure JVS 5. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; welders, cutters, solderers and brazers; construction laborers; personal and home care aides; and retail salespersons. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people that wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted.

Regional Labor Market Area 4

The number of job vacancies reported declined by 12 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 154 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the state. Through the three year period, education and health services jockeyed between first and second for the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 5. There were more jobs in the \$5.16-\$7.00 and the \$7.01-\$10.00 ranges in 2006 than there were vacancies for all the wage ranges combined in both 2004 and 2005. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

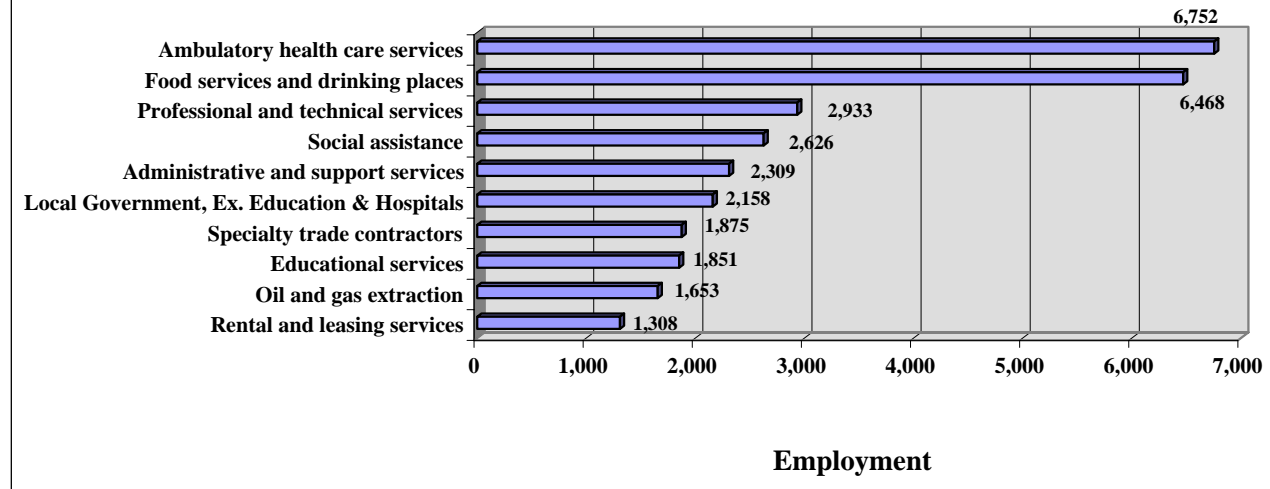
**RLMA 4 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results**

Figure: JVS 5



## Fastest Growing Industries in Region 4

*The Lafayette Region has a Unique Mix of Industry Growth*



The Lafayette regional labor market area is projected to add 46,213 workers by 2014 or grow by 17.7 percent. Workers will be in demand in a variety of industry sectors making it easier for job changers or unemployed find jobs they like.

The ambulatory health care services industry is expected to add 6,752 to the eight parish region. Workers in this industry segment will staff offices of physicians, dentist, and other health care practioners. Home health care services also falls under the health care umbrella.

The food services and drinking places is the second fastest growing industry sector with an increase of 6,468 workers expected by 2014. This sector includes full service restaurants, cafeterias, and fast-food places. These establishments serve as workforce readiness training grounds as some young people get their first job in these markets.

Industries in the professional and technical services industries include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services and photography studios are also included in this sector that will add need 2,933 workers by 2014.

The social assistance industry sector will add 2,626 workers by 2014. They will concentrate their skills through family, elderly and disabled services, nursing care facilities, community food services and child day care services.

Employment growth in administrative support services is a good economic indicator. One of the largest employing sectors in this industry are employment placement services and temporary help services. Both of these industries provide critical staff for companies that often lead to permanent positions with employers hiring them. Telemarketing bureaus, collection agencies, travel agencies and security services are also in the broad industry.

Employer in specialty trade contractors will be looking for highly trained skilled craft workers. These industries offer high paying jobs to individuals with career technical training.

Current high demand for natural resources in the form of fuels will spur the growth of the oil and gas extraction segment in the Lafayette region.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).



Regional Labor Market Area 4 : Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Mary, St. Martin, &amp; Vermilion

<i>Of the occupations with the most growth by percent, five required a bachelor's degree or higher.</i>			
<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>* 10 Year % Job Growth</b>	<b>Avg Annual Regional Wage</b>	<b>Minimum Educational Requirements</b>
Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	140.7%	\$15,351	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts</b>	<b>78.6%</b>	<b>\$40,063</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
<b>Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education</b>	<b>73.4%</b>	<b>\$18,343</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
Home Health Aides	72.6%	\$15,709	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Medical Assistants	70.6%	\$23,736	Mod.-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Computer Software Engineers, Applications</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>\$55,993</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
Physical Therapist Assistants	66.7%	\$33,150	Associate degree
Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	66.7%	\$32,373	Mod.-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Public Relations Specialists</b>	<b>64.3%</b>	<b>\$42,549</b>	<b>Bachelor's degree</b>
<b>Advertising and Promotions Managers</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>\$48,843</b>	<b>Work Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher degree</b>
<i>Of the occupations with the most annual openings three required post secondary education.</i>			
<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Annual Total Openings</b>	<b>Avg Annual Regional Wage</b>	<b>Minimum Educational Requirements</b>
Cashiers	560	\$14,875	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Retail Salespersons	370	\$20,901	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Waiters and Waitresses	330	\$13,694	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>General and Operations Managers</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>\$80,161</b>	<b>Work Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher degree</b>
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material	210	\$19,516	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Registered Nurses</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>\$48,346</b>	<b>Associate degree</b>
Office Clerks, General	190	\$18,696	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Food Preparation Workers	190	\$13,788	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Customer Service Representatives	180	\$22,389	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
<b>Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>\$34,886</b>	<b>Postsecondary voc.</b>

The Lafayette region will need skilled workers with college and moderate experience and training to meet the needs of its growing employers. The tables above reflect occupations projected to add the most jobs by percent growth and by numerical annual openings demand.

Both charts above contain occupations in the health care fields marking the critical need for workers in Region 4.

The first table of occupational demand by percent growth clearly defines the importance of a well educated labor force for the future. Five of the top ten occupations required a bachelor's degree or higher. Only two occupation require a short amount of on-the-job training, with home health aides occupations leading to higher earnings in the medical field as more education is obtained.

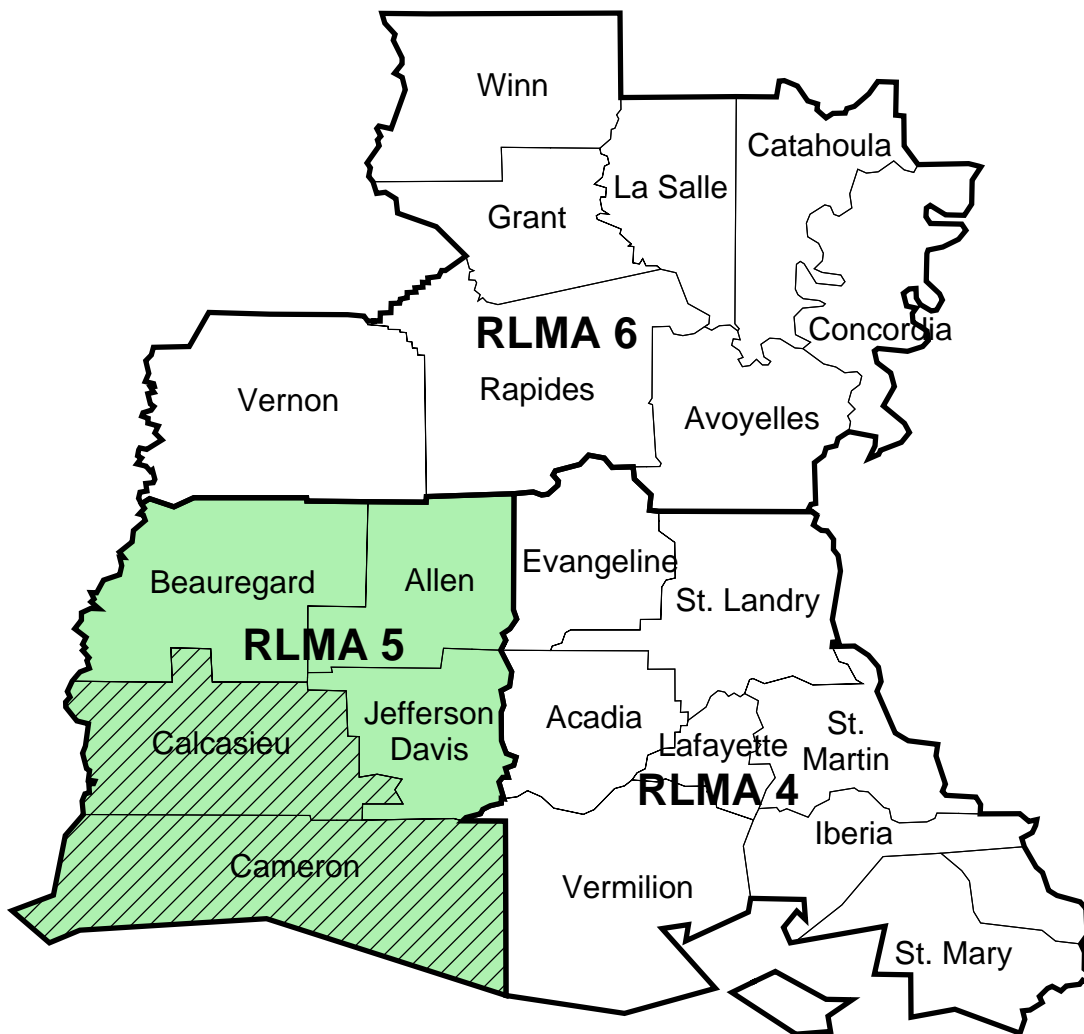
Short-term training and experience are the minimum educational requirements for six out of the ten fastest growing occupations by numerical growth. These occupations are important in that they serve as an entry point into the labor market for individuals who need a job quickly and who don't have the educational requirements for other jobs. Workers in these occupations gain the experiences of working as a team, punctuality, and responsibility that they will use the rest of their life.

Computer software engineers and network systems analyst occupations were at the top of the list by percent growth. Persons in these occupational fields will be able to easily find jobs in a wide variety of industries as companies maintain web based profiles and conduct more and more business over the internet.

General and operations managers are also in top demand by annual growth. These occupations can be found in almost every industry sector. Workers can work their way up into managerial positions or with a bachelors degree be hired at this level by some employers.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

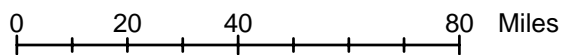
# Louisiana Regional Labor Market Area 5 and Lake Charles MSA

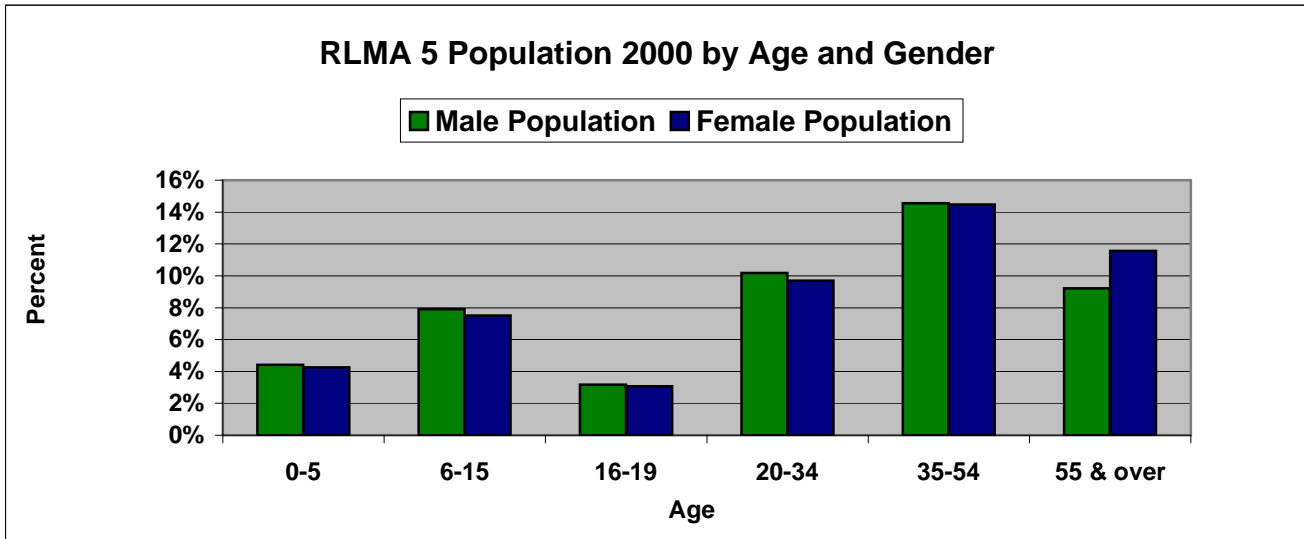


## Legend

- RLMA 5
- Lake Charles MSA

**Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
Research and Statistics GIS Program  
August 2007**





Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

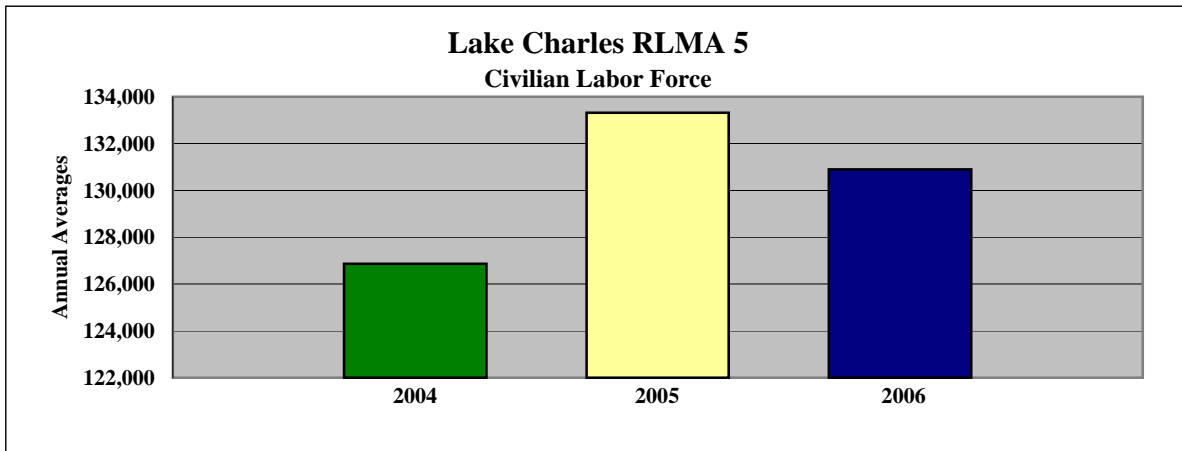
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 5	283,429	24,570	43,676	17,722	56,349	82,248	58,864
Males	140,148	12,521	22,412	9,016	28,854	41,229	26,116
Females	143,281	12,049	21,264	8,706	27,495	41,019	32,748

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 5	100%	9%	15%	6%	20%	29%	21%
Males	49%	4%	8%	3%	10%	15%	9%
Females	51%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	12%

Regional Labor Market Area 5 (RLMA 5) population for 2000 showed a higher percentage of males (49 percent) and a lower percentage of females (51 percent) compared to the statewide population (48 percent and 52 percent respectively). The percentage of males and females remained the same from birth to 34 years old. The population of males increased 1 percent above the females aged 35 to 54. The female population rose 3 percent above the male population for ages 55 and over for RLMA 5.

Regional Labor Market Area 5

PARISH	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
ALLEN	8,743	7.8%	8,716	9.1%	8,610	4.6%
BEAUREGARD	13,988	6.2%	14,367	7.0%	14,382	3.9%
<b>CALCASIEU</b>	86,254	5.2%	91,389	7.1%	89,090	3.4%
<b>CAMERON</b>	4,336	4.8%	4,482	5.4%	4,426	3.0%
JEFFERSON DAVIS	13,546	4.8%	14,360	5.8%	14,392	2.9%



Lake Charles RLMA experienced a spike in the labor force in 2005. Labor force as seen in the above graph increased significantly from 2004 to 2005 then tapered off in 2006. Calcasieu parish is mostly responsible for the increase seen in the region. The area increased by about 6,400, with Calcasieu accounting for 5,100 of the increase. All the other parishes in the region had slight to moderate increases during the same time period, but Allen parish saw a minor drop in labor force. In 2006, Beauregard and Jefferson Davis recorded the only increases in labor force in the region. The remaining parishes in the region, however reported decreases in their unemployment rates for 2006, with Jefferson Davis having the lowest rate at 2.9 percent. The area has not fully recovered from the damage from Hurricane Rita but has made some progress. The region's growth may have been stalled from the effects of the storm but, Lake Charles should start to see some growth in the coming years with the rebirth of some businesses and industries in the area.

**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.

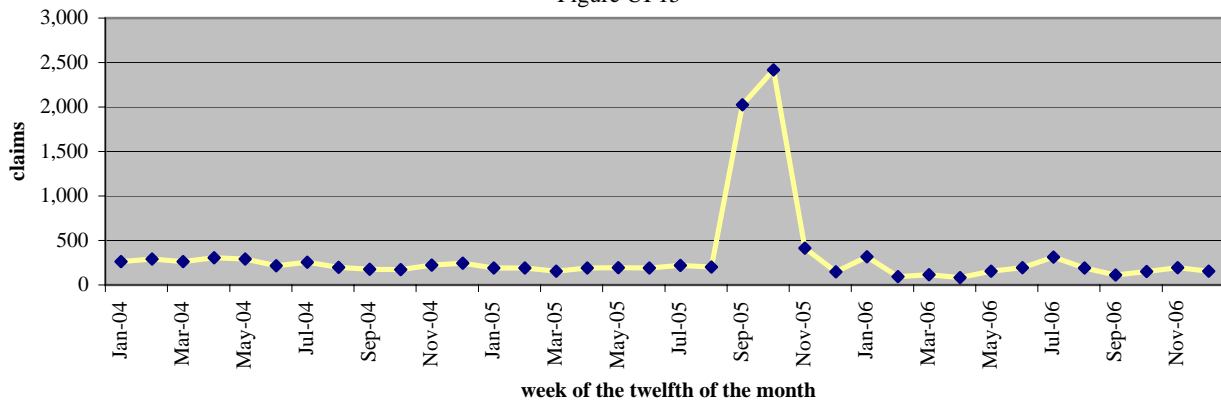
\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 5

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 5</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>4,712</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1,497</b>
ALLEN	24	181	28	331	17	115
BEAUREGARD	34	245	61	513	25	198
<b>CALCASIEU</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>3,446</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>CAMERON</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25</b>
JEFF. DAVIS	16	139	40	358	11	110

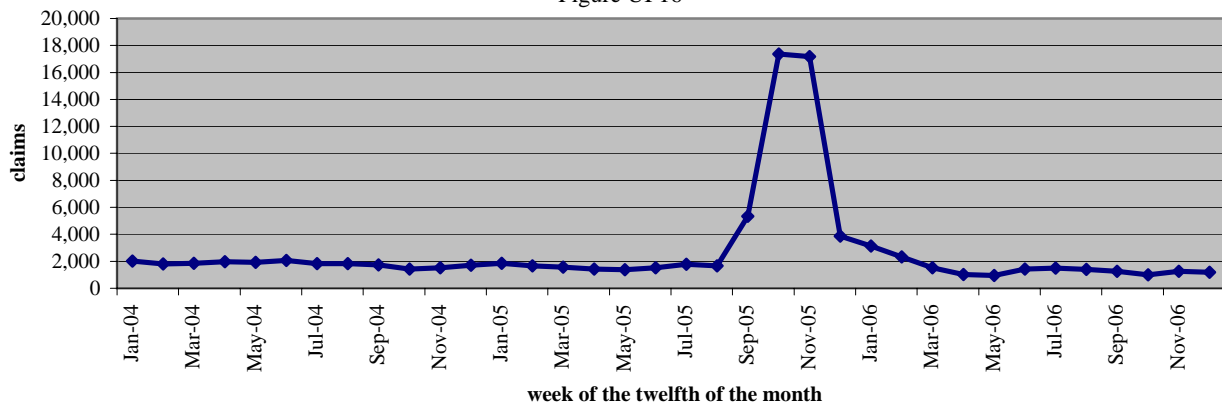
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 15



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 16

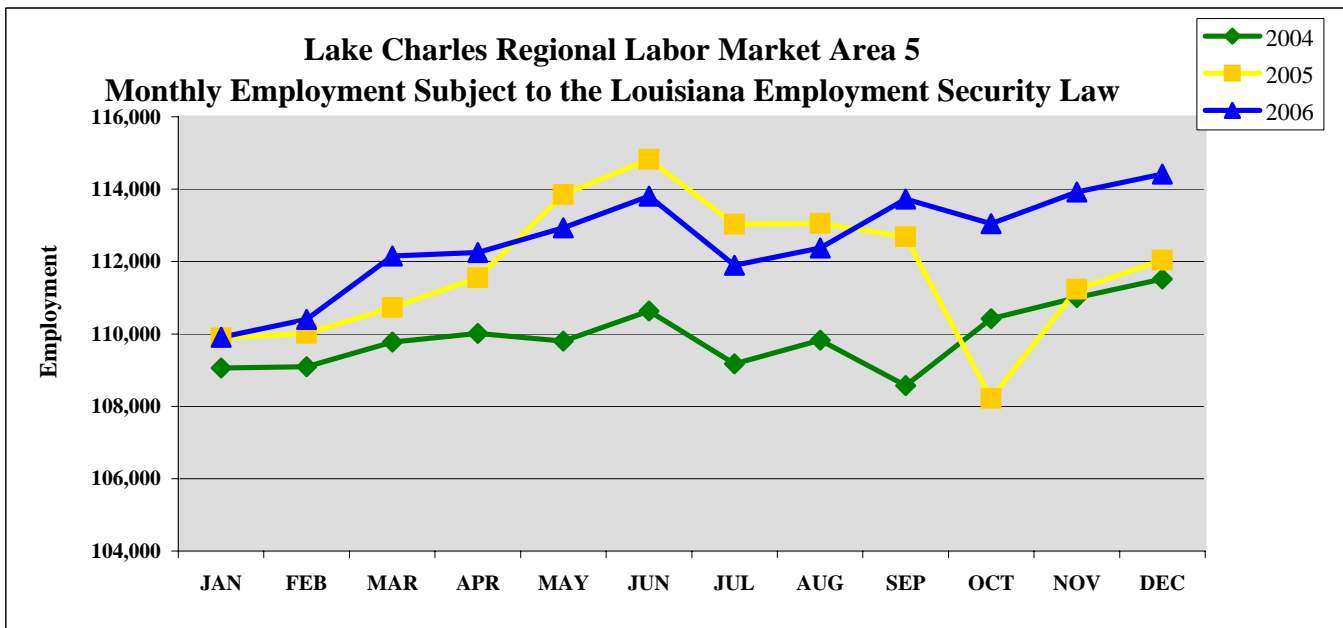


\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 5 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Lake Charles RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 5). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Lake Charles MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 5 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 15 and UI 16 indicate the number of claims in the Lake Charles RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Lake Charles RLMA had a very large percentage increase in Continued Weeks Claims as a result of the 2005 hurricane season. Initial Claims increased from 203 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 2,418 claims for the same week in October. Lake Charles is different from the other labor market areas in that it had two consecutive months of an extraordinarily high number of Initial Claims. This was caused by the Hurricane Rita impact on the area in September 2005. Initial Claims returned to pre-storm levels in December 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 1,667 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 17,360 claims for the same week in October 2005. The area had another month of high Continued Weeks Claimed before returning to pre-storm levels in March 2006. They continued to decline for the rest of 2006. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 1,262 claims for the week of the twelfth. Calcasieu parish had the largest percentage increase in annual average weekly claims due to the storms (Table UI 5).

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 2,437 or 2.2 percent (Table 6 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 4.7 percent and 11.6 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 3 of the 5 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 6.0 percent in Jefferson Davis parish, to the largest decrease of 15.2 percent in Cameron parish. Construction had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 110 units, an 18.0 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in the mining sector with an increase of \$215, a 24.4 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).

Table 6 Units

## RLMA 5 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>6,634</b>	<b>6,609</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>6,807</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>6,922</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	111	110	-1.1%	110	0.0%	108	-1.8%	-1.8%	
Mining	86	82	-4.1%	78	-4.9%	80	2.6%	-2.4%	
Utilities	67	68	1.9%	68	-0.4%	67	-1.5%	-1.8%	
Construction	621	613	-1.4%	663	8.2%	723	9.0%	18.0%	
Manufacturing	215	211	-2.0%	226	7.4%	231	2.2%	9.7%	
Wholesale Trade	354	348	-1.7%	342	-1.6%	344	0.6%	-1.0%	
Retail Trade	1,119	1,113	-0.6%	1,112	0.0%	1,114	0.2%	0.1%	
Transportation & Warehousing	287	284	-1.3%	299	5.5%	314	5.0%	10.8%	
Information	76	78	2.3%	82	5.1%	88	7.3%	12.8%	
Finance & Insurance	469	470	0.2%	489	4.0%	499	2.0%	6.2%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	268	269	0.2%	278	3.4%	284	2.2%	5.7%	
Professional & Technical Services	586	592	1.0%	616	4.1%	624	1.3%	5.5%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	22	23	6.9%	27	16.1%	29	7.4%	24.7%	
Administrative & Waste Services	280	297	6.4%	323	8.7%	340	5.3%	14.4%	
Educational Services	44	52	18.3%	49	-5.3%	49	0.0%	-5.3%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	667	663	-0.6%	675	1.8%	685	1.5%	3.3%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	87	91	4.3%	94	3.3%	89	-5.3%	-2.2%	
Accommodation & Food Services	443	438	-1.0%	458	4.5%	443	-3.3%	1.1%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	566	557	-1.6%	556	-0.1%	549	-1.3%	-1.3%	
Public Administration	228	219	-3.9%	223	1.7%	224	0.4%	2.2%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 6,609 (Table 6 Units), down 0.4 percent compared to 6,634 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,113) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises (23).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 6,807 (Table 6 Units), up 3.0 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,112) and the smallest number of annual average units (27) was found in management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 6,922 (Table 6 Units), up 1.7 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,114) and the smallest number of annual average units (29) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.



Table 6 Wage - RLMA 5 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	2003	2004	Percent Change 2003 to 2004	2005	Percent Change 2004 to 2005	2006	Percent Change 2005 to 2006	Percent Change 2004 to 2006
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 5</b>	<b>\$565</b>	<b>\$590</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>\$619</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>\$659</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	504	522	3.6%	560	7.2%	577	3.0%	10.5%
Mining	794	880	10.9%	992	12.7%	1,095	10.4%	24.4%
Utilities	838	924	10.2%	994	7.6%	904	-9.1%	-2.1%
Construction	614	639	4.1%	633	-0.9%	736	16.3%	15.2%
Manufacturing	1,135	1,194	5.2%	1,275	6.8%	1,311	2.8%	9.8%
Wholesale Trade	689	705	2.3%	782	10.8%	870	11.3%	23.3%
Retail Trade	349	357	2.3%	371	3.9%	409	10.2%	14.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	751	778	3.6%	751	-3.5%	760	1.2%	-2.3%
Information	619	631	1.9%	812	28.8%	712	-12.3%	12.9%
Finance & Insurance	573	603	5.2%	680	12.9%	709	4.3%	17.7%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	488	540	10.6%	557	3.2%	631	13.3%	16.9%
Professional & Technical Services	782	790	1.0%	779	-1.4%	911	16.9%	15.3%
Management of Companies & Enterprises *	686	773	12.6%	1,594	106.3%	774	-51.4%	0.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	437	452	3.4%	493	9.1%	561	13.8%	24.2%
Educational Services	506	542	7.1%	547	0.9%	595	8.8%	9.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	498	517	3.8%	538	4.0%	589	9.5%	13.9%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	409	428	4.7%	439	2.5%	439	0.0%	2.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	226	235	4.2%	272	15.6%	320	17.6%	36.0%
Other Services, except Public Administration	411	435	5.9%	433	-0.4%	455	5.1%	4.6%
Public Administration	594	620	4.5%	674	8.6%	658	-2.4%	6.1%

\*Significant payouts in 2005 occurred during buyout of company.

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$131 million to register a gain of 4.0 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$25 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$590 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,194 in the manufacturing sector to a low of \$235 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 6 Wage. Calcasieu parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$617 while Jefferson Davis parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$442.

Total wages for 2005 increased approximately \$219 million to register a gain of 6.5 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$619, which was an average increase of \$29 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,594 in the management of companies and enterprises sector to a low of \$272 in the accommodations and food services sector. The large average weekly wage for management of companies and enterprises was due to payouts that occurred during the buyout of a company in the Lake Charles RLMA. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 6 Wage. Cameron parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$660 while Jefferson Davis parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$477.

Total wages for 2006 increased approximately \$254 million to register a gain of 7.1 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$659, which was an average increase of \$40 from 2005. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,311 in the manufacturing sector to a low of \$320 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 6 Wage. Cameron parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$814 and Jefferson Davis parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$502.

Table 6 Employment

## RLMA 5 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	Percent	<u>2005</u>	Percent	<u>2006</u>	Percent	<u>2004 to 2006</u>
			Change		Change		Change	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>110,203</b>	<b>109,804</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>111,452</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>112,241</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	767	757	-1.3%	708	-6.4%	642	-9.3%	-15.1%
Mining	1,064	1,589	49.3%	1,534	-3.5%	1,507	-1.8%	-5.2%
Utilities	882	866	-1.8%	846	-2.3%	829	-2.0%	-4.2%
Construction	10,578	10,275	-2.9%	10,701	4.1%	12,182	13.8%	18.6%
Manufacturing	11,412	11,139	-2.4%	10,807	-3.0%	10,712	-0.9%	-3.8%
Wholesale Trade	3,669	3,550	-3.2%	3,313	-6.7%	3,382	2.1%	-4.7%
Retail Trade	13,811	13,817	0.0%	13,806	-0.1%	14,425	4.5%	4.4%
Transportation & Warehousing	4,568	4,198	-8.1%	4,407	5.0%	4,357	-1.1%	3.8%
Information	1,752	1,681	-4.0%	1,538	-8.5%	1,526	-0.8%	-9.2%
Finance & Insurance	3,200	3,146	-1.7%	2,839	-9.8%	2,873	1.2%	-8.7%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,675	1,531	-8.6%	1,515	-1.0%	1,578	4.2%	3.1%
Professional & Technical Services	3,482	3,690	6.0%	3,870	4.9%	3,994	3.2%	8.2%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1,033	982	-5.0%	955	-2.7%	772	-19.2%	-21.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	3,303	3,231	-2.2%	3,575	10.6%	3,854	7.8%	19.3%
Educational Services	9,552	9,787	2.5%	9,786	0.0%	9,646	-1.4%	-1.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	14,426	14,676	1.7%	14,689	0.1%	14,804	0.8%	0.9%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	6,284	6,199	-1.3%	6,076	-2.0%	4,491	-26.1%	-27.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	10,208	10,155	-0.5%	11,669	14.9%	11,932	2.3%	17.5%
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,541	2,555	0.6%	2,620	2.5%	2,677	2.2%	4.8%
Public Administration	5,929	5,880	-0.8%	6,106	3.8%	6,007	-1.6%	2.2%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 109,804 in the Lake Charles RLMA (Table 6 Employment), a decrease of 0.4 percent when compared to 110,203 in 2003. Employment in 2 of the 5 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 1.5 percent in Jefferson Davis parish, to the largest decrease of 6.7 percent in Cameron parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Lake Charles RLMA with 14,676 employees, or 13.4 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 22,329, or 20.3 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 1,529 (1.4 percent); state workers averaged 3,965 (3.6 percent); and local government workers averaged 16,835 (15.3 percent), while the private sector made up 79.7 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 111,452 (Table 6 Employment), an increase of 1.5 percent when compared to 109,804 in 2004. Employment in 2 of the 5 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 4.4 percent in Jefferson Davis parish, to the largest decrease of 6.2 percent in Cameron parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Lake Charles RLMA with 14,689 employees, or 13.2 percent of total employment.

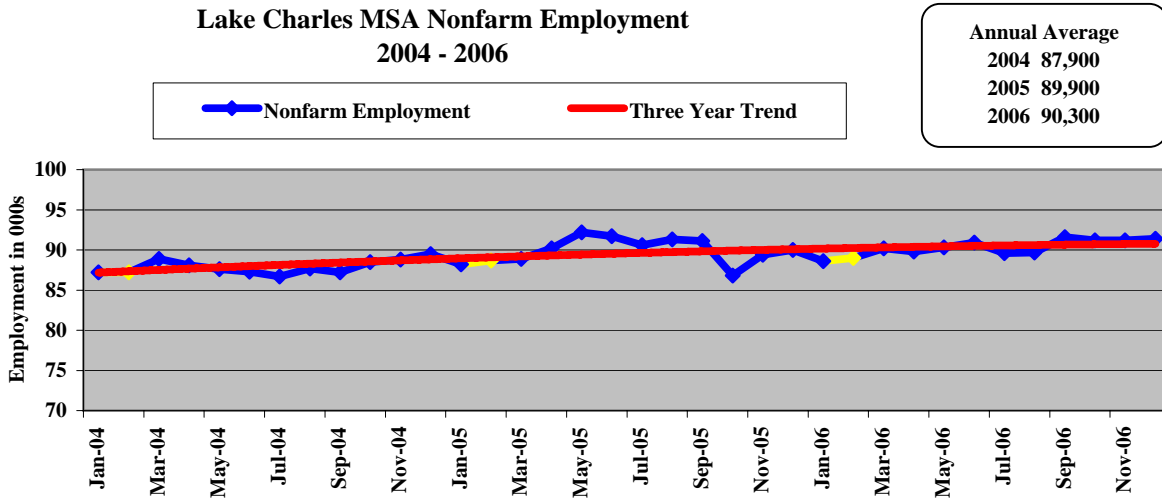
The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 22,320, or 20.0 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 1,466 (1.3 percent); state workers averaged 3,805 (3.4 percent); and local government workers averaged 17,049 (15.3 percent), while the private sector made up 80.0 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 112,241 (Table 6 Employment), an increase of 0.7 percent when compared to 111,452 in 2005. Employment in 4 of the 5 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 4.0 percent in Allen parish, to a decrease of 9.6 percent in Cameron parish. Health care and social assistance continued to be the leading industry in the Lake Charles RLMA with 14,804 employees, or 13.2 percent of total employment.

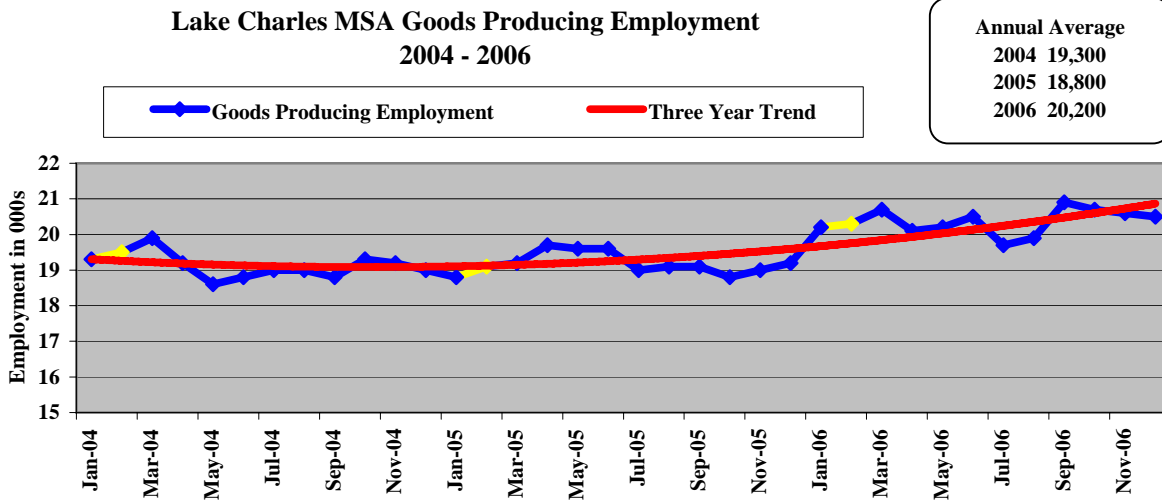
**Lake Charles MSA Nonfarm Employment**

Metropolitan Statistical Area : *Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes*

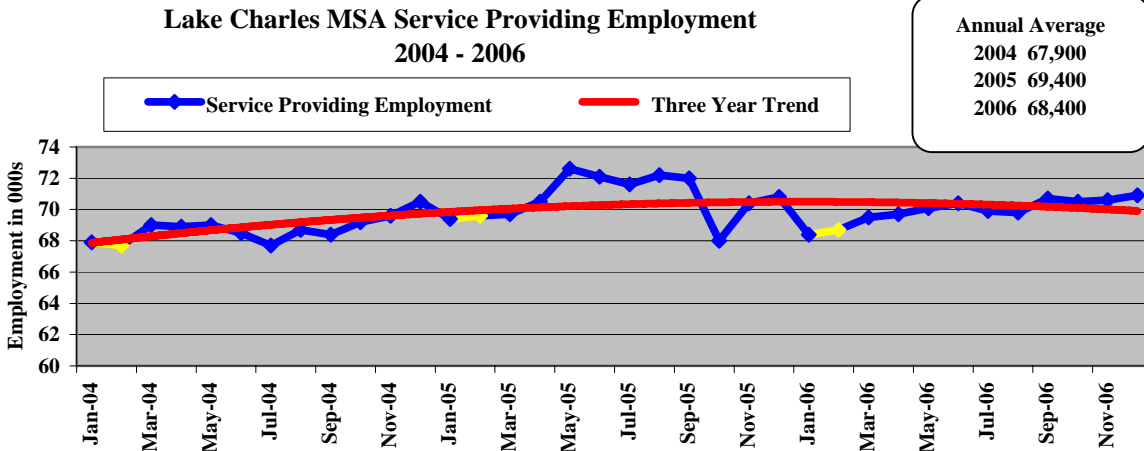
**Lake Charles MSA Nonfarm Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Lake Charles MSA Goods Producing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Lake Charles MSA Service Providing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



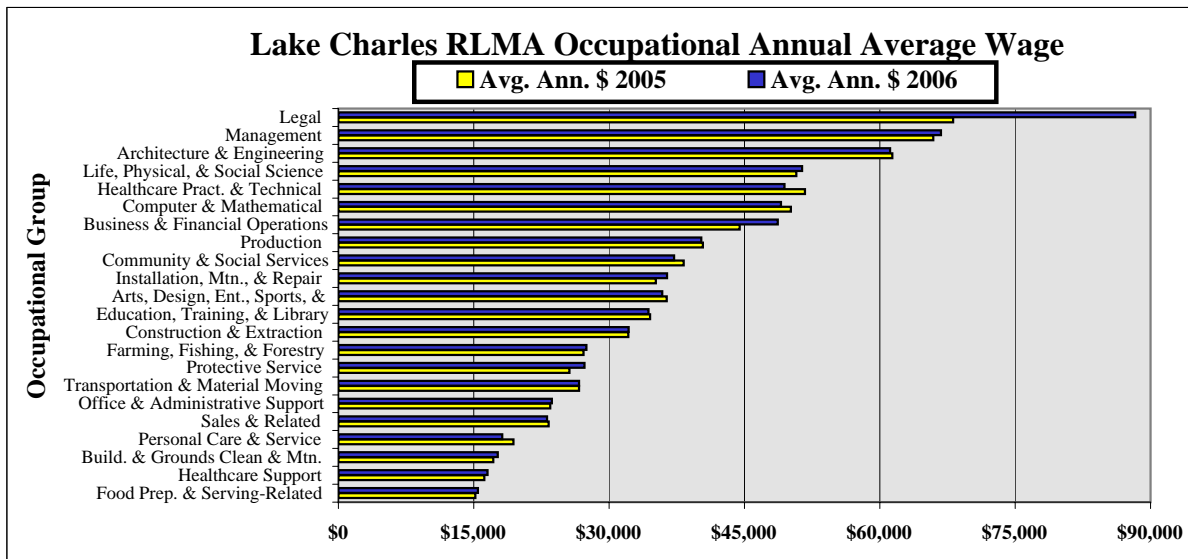
The Lake Charles Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the fifth largest of the eight metropolitan statistical areas. Prior to 2003 the MSA consisted of one parish, Calcasieu. The Bureau of the Census redefined the MSA's beginning with 2004 publications. As a result, the Lake Charles MSA acquired Cameron Parish. The majority of the Lake Charles MSA's is service driven. The goods producing and service providing employment is affected by seasonal patterns, start up and completion of business projects, normal growth or decline, adverse weather, etc. This analysis will focus on total nonfarm goods producing and service providing employment for 2004 through 2006. The annual averages will be used.

In 2004, the Lake Charles MSA total nonfarm employment was 87,200 for January. The year ended with employment of 89,500. Comparing the 2003 annual average of 88,200 to the 2004 figure of 87,900, we see that the nonfarm employment recorded a loss of 300. Goods producing employment, based on the 2003 annual average figure of 19,200 and the 2004 average of 19,100, recorded a loss of 100 jobs. Service providing employment had an annual average of 69,000 in 2003 compared to 68,800 in 2004.

In 2005, the total nonfarm employment of the Lake Charles MSA was 88,200 for January. The year ended with employment of 90,000. The yearly average was 89,900. Compared to the 2004 annual average of 87,900, there was an over the year gain of 2,000. Goods producing for 2004 was 19,100 and was 19,200 for 2005. This showed a gain of 100. The service providing annual average employment was 68,800 for 2004 and 70,700 for 2005, representing a gain of 1,900. Surprisingly, the annual averages remained in line following Hurricane Rita. The affects of Hurricane Rita were reflected in the October monthly total nonfarm numbers. Between September and October of 2005, 4,300 jobs were lost. By November, more than half of the employees had returned and by December 2005, total nonfarm employment was back to normal.

In 2006, Lake Charles MSA total nonfarm employment for January 2006 was 88,600 and 91,400 for December 2006. The total annual average employment for 2005 was 89,900 and for 2006 it was 90,300 a gain, of 400. The goods producing annual average for 2005 was 19,200 and for 2006, it was 20,400, for a gain of 1,200. The service providing average for 2006 was 69,900 compared to 70,700 for 2005.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link  
[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,167	15,464
Healthcare Support	\$16,185	16,527
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$17,146	17,646
Personal Care & Service	\$19,399	18,159
Sales & Related	\$23,293	23,138
Office & Administrative Support	\$23,458	23,640
Transportation & Material Moving	\$26,661	26,655
Protective Service	\$25,605	27,272
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$27,164	27,492
Construction & Extraction	\$32,110	32,151
Education, Training, & Library	\$34,556	34,362
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$36,387	35,870
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$35,177	36,405
Community & Social Services	\$38,271	37,200
Production	\$40,401	40,216
Business & Financial Operations	\$44,451	48,700
Computer & Mathematical	\$50,159	49,044
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$51,712	49,429
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$50,755	51,397
Architecture & Engineering	\$61,377	61,150
Management	\$65,929	66,775
Legal	\$68,129	88,300

The Lake Charles RLMA was another region devastated by the 2005 storms, in particular Hurricane Rita. However, the majority of the larger business related services were operational in less than four months after the storm. The Legal occupational group reported the largest annual average gain from 2005, surging upward by \$20,171 or 29.6 percent. Individuals who were classified as Lawyers saw an increase in pay, moving from \$95,549 to \$120,417. The second largest increase was in the Business & Financial Operations occupational group. Among the highest paid occupation within this group was Management Analysts at a salary of \$66,691 for the 2006 annual average. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Pediatricians, General at \$162,699, while the lowest paid occupation was Pressers, Textile, Garment, and Related Materials at \$12,890. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

Regional Labor Market Area 5

**Table JVS 11**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	16	49	16	0.8%	2.6%	1.1%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	0	6	35	0.0%	0.7%	4.7%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	13	462	163	0.4%	13.6%	4.6%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	79	122	5	2.9%	4.2%	0.2%
Community and Social Services Occupations	0	1	23	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	6	4	3	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	271	145	736	3.0%	1.7%	7.9%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	0	65	136	0.0%	1.0%	2.2%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	3	0	20	0.9%	0.0%	10.5%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	158	721	1,704	1.6%	6.8%	18.2%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	150	191	364	2.3%	3.0%	5.9%
Healthcare Support Occupations	159	41	86	7.1%	1.6%	3.1%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	21	275	329	0.4%	5.3%	5.7%
Legal Occupations	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	0	2	91	0.0%	0.2%	9.1%
Management Occupations	85	154	3	1.6%	3.4%	0.1%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	12	0	79	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	366	165	510	2.2%	1.0%	3.1%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	613	327	183	18.1%	7.3%	5.6%
Production Occupations	53	85	435	0.7%	1.2%	5.7%
Protective Service Occupations	39	5	18	1.0%	0.1%	0.6%
Sales and Related Occupations	287	424	856	2.7%	3.9%	7.6%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	344	416	1,102	4.7%	5.2%	13.2%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>3,658</b>	<b>6,895</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

Table JVS 12  
By Industry Group

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	355	119	383	3.4%	1.1%	3.1%
Education & Health Services	340	326	627	1.4%	1.3%	2.5%
Financial Activities	93	363	110	1.9%	8.4%	2.5%
Information	47	22	32	2.8%	1.4%	2.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	398	1,054	1,975	2.4%	5.7%	12.0%
Manufacturing	37	232	310	0.3%	2.1%	2.9%
Natural Resources & Mining	2	56	387	0.1%	2.5%	17.9%
Other Services	614	363	180	23.4%	13.6%	6.6%
Professional & Business Services	224	170	1,094	2.9%	2.0%	12.9%
Public Administration	*	377	205	*	6.2%	3.4%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	566	576	1,592	2.5%	2.6%	6.9%
Unclassified	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>3,658</b>	<b>6,895</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)



**Regional Labor Market Area 5**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 2,675 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.6 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately two and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (614) was found in the industry group of other services (Table JVS 12), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in personal care and services with 613 (Table JVS 11). Approximately 60 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Lake Charles regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 70 percent of the vacancies. More than half of all job vacancies paid wages of \$5.16-\$7.00. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy or tractor trailer; insulation workers; stock clerks and order fillers; laborers and freight, stock and material movers; and gaming service workers. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

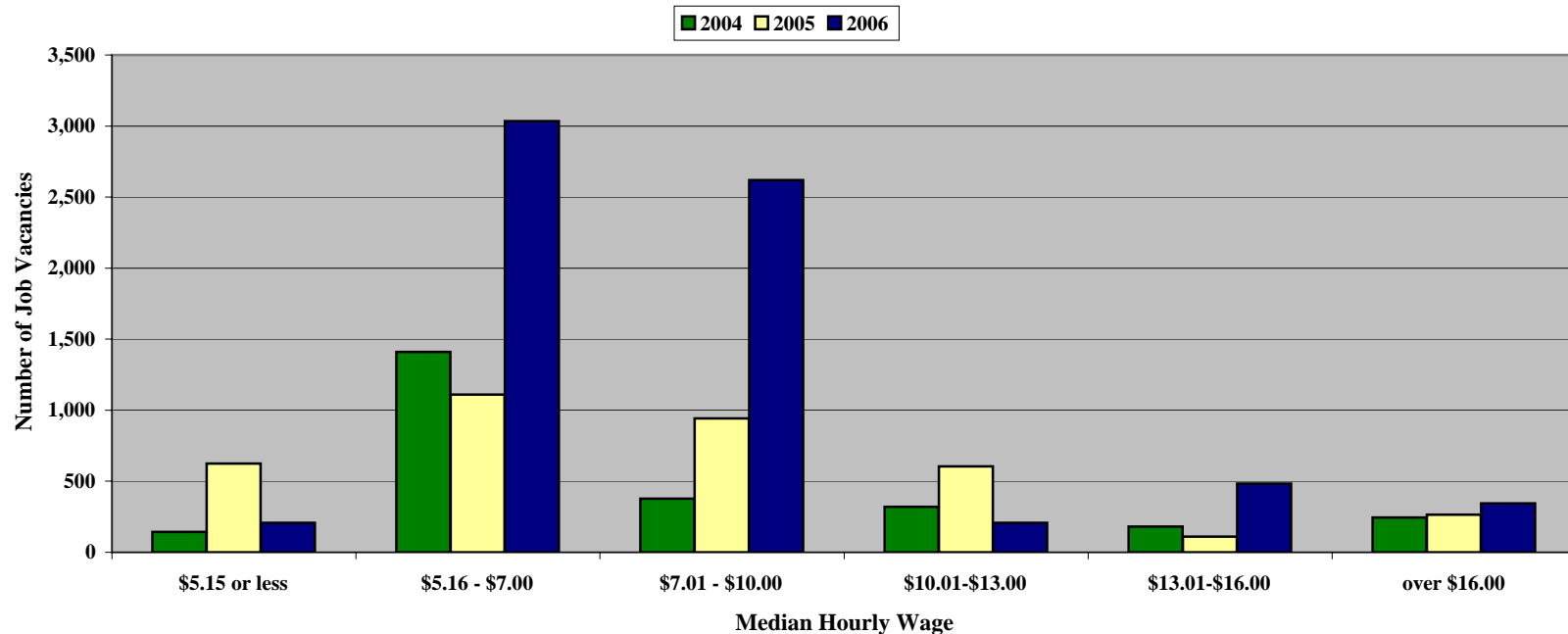
In comparison, there were 3,658 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.2 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were slightly more than three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,054) was found in the industry group of leisure and hospitality (Table JVS 12), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in food preparation and serving-related with 721 (Table JVS 11). Two thirds (66 percent) of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Lake Charles regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in 55 percent of the job vacancies. A little more than 45 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were fast food and counter workers; janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners; retail salespersons; hairdressers, hairstylists and cosmetologist; and truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that some aspect of the job is undesirable to applicants (such as shifts, weekends, nights, schedule changes, heavy lifting, etc.).

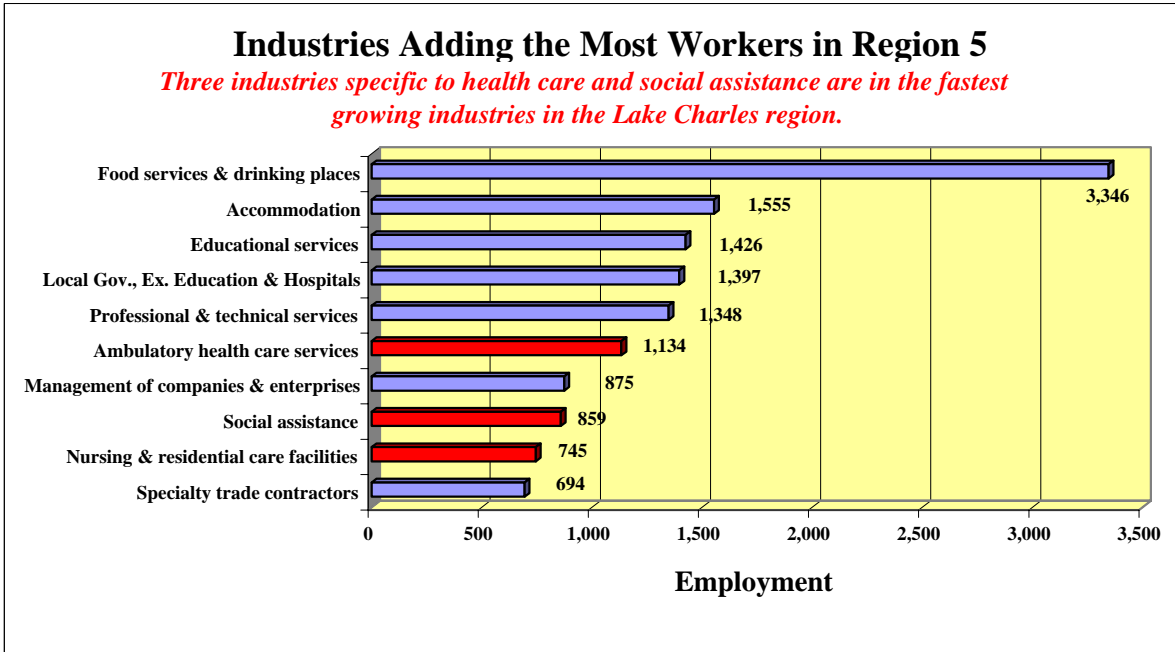
In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 6,895 job vacancies reported resulting in a 6.1 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately six vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,975) was in leisure and hospitality (Table JVS 12), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in food preparation and serving related with 1,704 (Table JVS 11). Over 75 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Lake Charles regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in only 43 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly over 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$5.16-\$7.00 per hour. The top five job openings were combined food preparation and serving workers including fast food; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; cashiers; retail salespersons; and cleaners of vehicles and equipment. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people who wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted.

The number of job vacancies reported increased by 37 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 88 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the state. During 2005 and 2006, leisure and hospitality has been the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies and food preparation and servicing related has been the occupational group with the largest number of job vacancies. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 6 when the range of \$5.16-\$7.00 increased 174 percent over 2005 and the range \$7.01 to \$10.00 increased 178 percent over the same time period. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

**RLMA 5 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results**

Figure: JVS 6





The Lake Charles regional labor market area is projected to add 16,645 workers by 2014 or grow by fourteen percent. Almost one third of this growth will be in the accommodations and food services industries with health care and social assistance next in new jobs created.

The two fastest growing industries in the Lake Charles region reflect the growing marketing of an entertainment area in Lake Charles. Food services and drinking places will need 3,346 works to fill jobs by 2014, while accommodations will need an additional 1,555 workers.

Educational services includes all types of training from kindergarten through universities, cosmetology and barber schools and flight schools will need additional trained staff. These workers will include instructors, bus drivers and cafeteria workers.

Industries in the professional and technical services industries include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping, and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services and photography studios are also included in this sector that will need 1,348 additional workers by 2014.

The health care and social services industries are projected to need an additional 2,738 workers by 2014. Ambulatory health care is the fastest growing sector in this industry segment needing half of the projected increase. Workers in this industry segment will staff offices of physicians, dentists, and other health care practioners. Home health care services also falls under the health care umbrella.

Local government is responsible for providing police protection, administering community and housing programs, as well as economic programs to attract new businesses and population to the region. They have a direct impact on keeping the economy viable and will need almost 1,397 additional workers by 2014.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 5: Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, & Jefferson Davis

*Fastest Growing Occupations Through 2014 Ranked by Percent Growth*

Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage	Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage
<b>First professional degree</b>			<b>Work Exp. in a Related Occupation</b>		
25	Veterinarians	\$67,094	5	<b>Lodging Managers</b>	\$30,777
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>			<b>Short-term Training. &amp; Exp.</b>		
3	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	\$55,359	1	Personal and Home Care Aides	\$13,593
6	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$18,269	2	<b>Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks</b>	\$18,112
7	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$46,627	4	Home Health Aides	\$15,112
8	Employment, Recruitment, and Placement Specialists	\$46,268	12	<b>Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food</b>	\$13,435
9	Database Administrators	\$46,834	13	<b>Cooks, Fast Food</b>	\$13,354
10	Electrical Engineers	\$70,031	14	<b>Food Preparation Workers</b>	\$13,619
24	Public Relations Specialists	\$42,332	15	Child Care Workers	\$12,921
<b>Associate degree</b>			16	<b>Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners</b>	\$13,691
18	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$42,314	17	<b>Dishwashers</b>	\$13,920
<b>Moderate-term Training. &amp; Exp.</b>			20	<b>Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop</b>	\$13,433
19	Medical Assistants	\$20,906	21	<b>Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop</b>	\$15,172
22	<b>Cooks, Restaurant</b>	\$17,509	23	Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	\$15,300

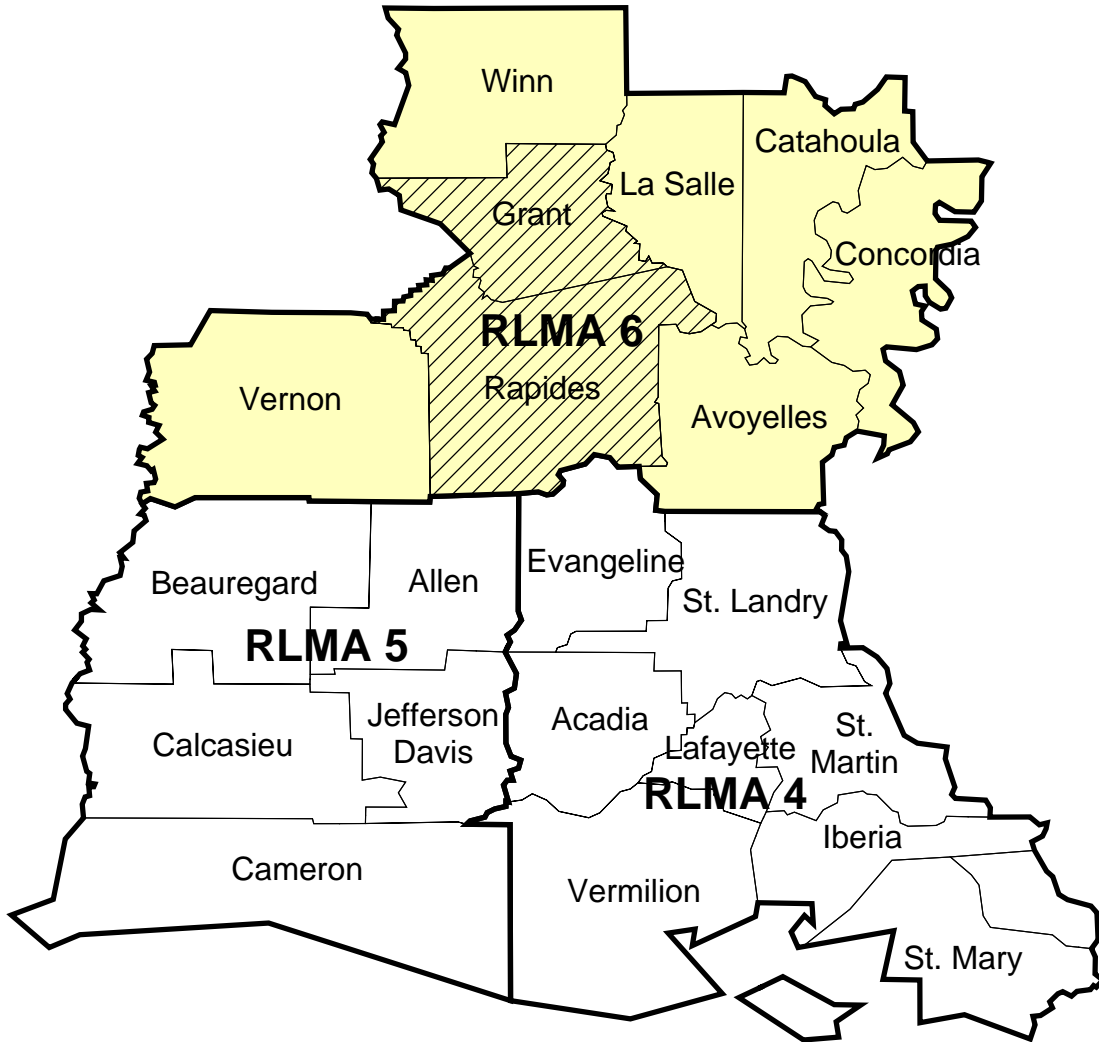
The occupations in bold in the table above, of the fastest growing occupations in the Lake Charles region, further states the anticipated projected growth in the accommodations and food services industry. Nine of the top industries are in this industry sector.

While many of these occupations start out at the low end of the wage scale, they serve to build work skills in new labor force entrants. Many of the occupations can lead to higher paying jobs in the same field through the ranks to management positions. Many students starting out in these occupations are able to cut the cost of a higher education while they gain team management and work skills.



Workers with a bachelor's degree will be needed in a variety of professions. The most widely recruited will be those with computer skills and knowledge. The Lake Charles area will also be hiring electrical engineers and veterinarians to round out the need for highly educated workers.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

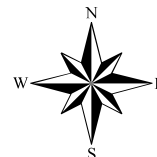
# Louisiana Regional Labor Market Area 6 and Alexandria MSA



## Legend

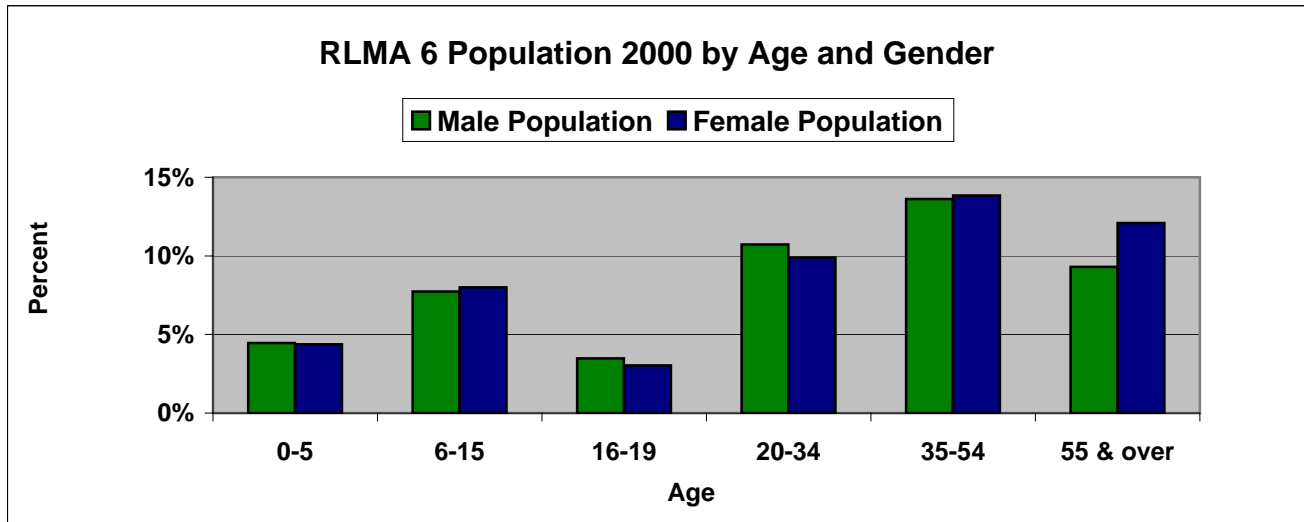
-  RLMA 6
-  Alexandria MSA

Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
Research and Statistics GIS Program  
August 2007



0 20 40 80 Miles

Regional Labor Market Area 6: Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, La Salle, Rapides, Vernon, and Winn Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

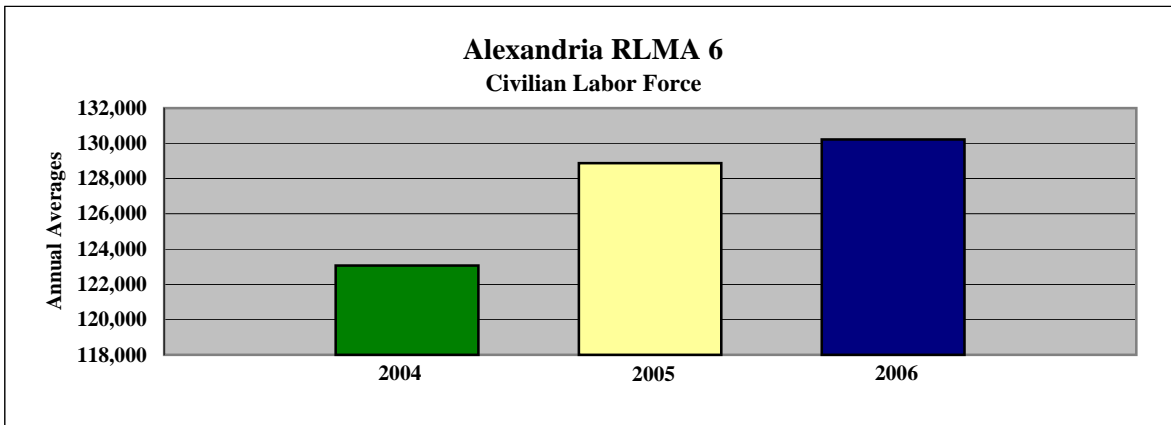
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 6	301,390	26,585	45,893	19,582	62,126	82,777	64,427
Males	148,553	13,412	23,311	10,461	32,303	41,062	28,004
Females	152,837	13,173	22,582	9,121	29,823	41,715	36,423

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 6	100%	8%	16%	6%	21%	28%	21%
Males	49%	4%	8%	3%	11%	14%	9%
Females	51%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	12%

Regional Labor Market Area 6 (RLMA 6) population for 2000 displayed a higher male population (49 percent) and a lower female population (51 percent) when compared to the statewide population data of 48 percent for males and 52 percent for females. There was an even distribution of males and females from birth to 19 years old. The male population increased 1 percent above the female population for ages 20 to 34. Both genders represented an even portion of the 35 to 54 age group in RLMA 6. The female population increased 3 percent above the male population for ages 55 and over.

Regional Labor Market Area

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
AVOYELLES	15,681	7.5%	16,098	7.7%	16,061	4.4%
CATAHOULA	4,103	7.4%	4,165	7.8%	4,175	5.0%
CONCORDIA	7,203	9.5%	7,365	9.9%	7,239	5.9%
<b>GRANT</b>	8,139	6.3%	8,586	5.8%	8,671	3.7%
LASALLE	5,695	5.9%	5,818	5.0%	6,069	3.1%
<b>RAPIDES</b>	56,489	5.2%	59,433	5.7%	60,037	3.5%
VERNON	19,733	5.0%	21,154	5.5%	21,625	3.6%
WINN	6,020	6.3%	6,264	5.9%	6,341	4.0%



Alexandria Regional Labor Market Area labor force has increased modestly from 2004 to 2006. The labor force annual averages for the area attest to this gradual increase. Labor force in Alexandria increased by about 7,100 or 5.8 percent from 2004 to 2006. Most of the increase occurred in 2005. Rapides, Grant, Vernon and Avoyelles parishes are responsible for the greater part of the increase. The other parishes in the region rose by 250 or less. Some minimal growth is also seen in 2006, While two parishes actually decreased modestly. Civilian Labor force in 2006 for Concordia and Avoyelles declined slightly. The employment for the region has been progressively increasing during 2004 to 2006. Unlike most areas in the state which had noticeable changes in unemployment rates from 2004 to 2005, little change occurred in the unemployment rates in the region. In 2006, however, a drop in the unemployment rates can be seen as depicted in the above graph. The Alexandria area has continued to see growth over the past three year, but the growth has been at a moderate pace.

**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 include all persons age 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.

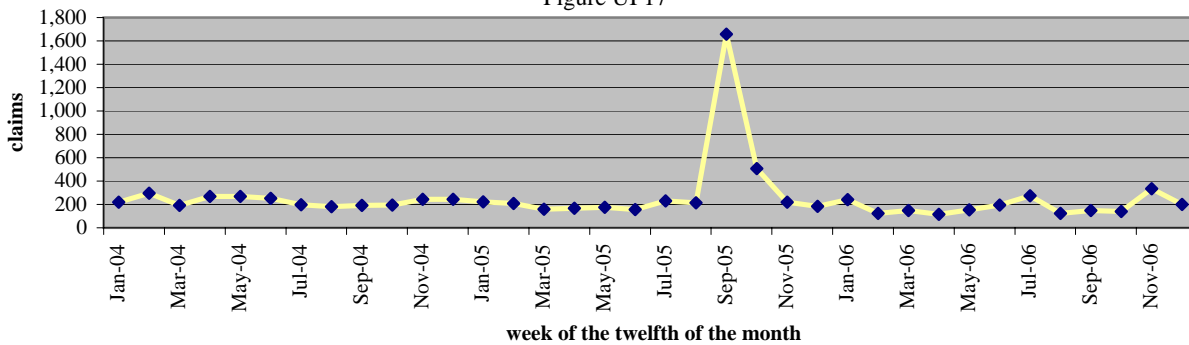
\*\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 6

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 6</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>3,052</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>1,715</b>
AVOYELLES	36	353	64	485	23	227
CATAHOULA	9	83	14	133	7	71
CONCORDIA	15	141	29	270	13	144
<b>GRANT</b>	18	148	19	160	11	93
LASALLE	9	71	5	70	5	46
<b>RAPIDES</b>	101	781	142	1,313	73	731
VERNON	31	271	56	517	43	332
WINN	11	85	13	105	8	72

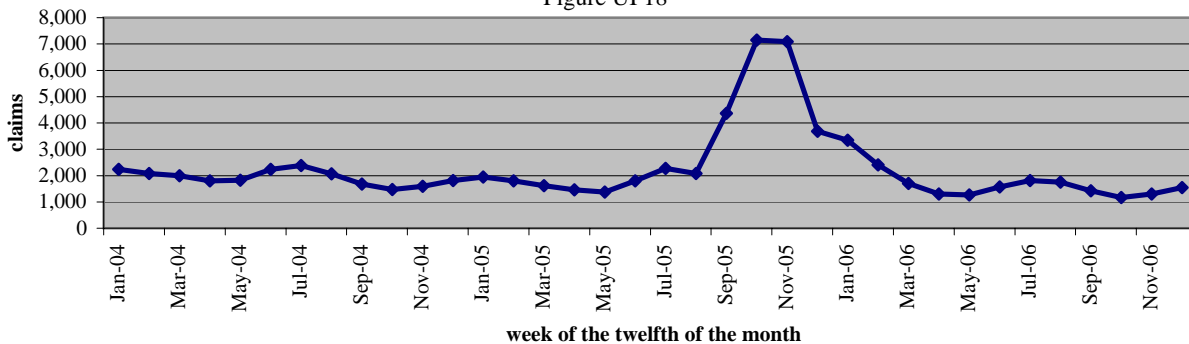
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 17



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 18



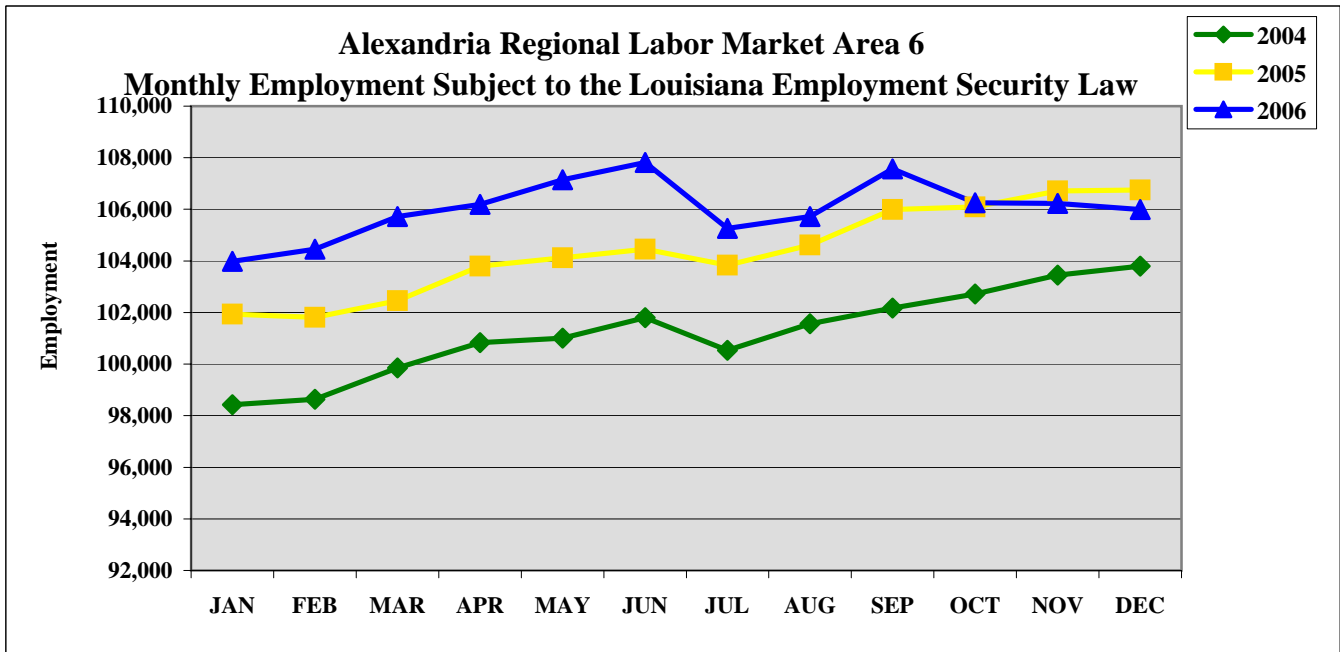
\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.



Table UI 6 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Alexandria RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 6). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Alexandria MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 6 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 17 and UI 18 indicate the number of claims in the Alexandria RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Alexandria RLMA claims were moderately affected by the 2005 hurricane season compared to other labor market areas. Initial Claims increased from 214 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 1,658 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in November 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 2,077 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 7,145 claims for the same week in October 2005. In March 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 1,499 claims for the week of the twelfth.

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 4,713 or 4.7 percent (Table 7 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 5.4 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 6 of the 8 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 8.7 percent in Vernon parish, to the largest decrease of 2.6 percent in Catahoula parish. The construction sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 66 units, an 11.9 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in management of companies and enterprises with an increase of \$451, a 42.9 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).

Table 7 Units

## RLMA 6 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	2003	2004	Percent	2005	Percent	2006	Percent	Percent
			Change		Change		Change	Change
			2003 to 2004		2004 to 2005		2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>6,530</b>	<b>6,597</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>6,802</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>6,953</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	279	279	0.1%	284	1.9%	275	-3.2%	-1.3%
Mining	56	55	-0.9%	56	1.8%	64	14.3%	16.4%
Utilities	98	97	-0.8%	95	-2.1%	93	-2.1%	-4.1%
Construction	533	556	4.4%	594	6.8%	622	4.7%	11.9%
Manufacturing	182	182	0.4%	192	5.3%	194	1.0%	6.4%
Wholesale Trade	303	303	0.1%	300	-1.0%	305	1.7%	0.7%
Retail Trade	1,101	1,108	0.7%	1,113	0.4%	1,123	0.9%	1.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	295	290	-1.9%	307	6.0%	322	4.9%	11.2%
Information	115	107	-6.8%	101	-5.4%	98	-3.0%	-8.2%
Finance & Insurance	445	461	3.6%	495	7.4%	493	-0.4%	7.0%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	222	227	2.3%	241	6.4%	250	3.7%	10.4%
Professional & Technical Services	485	468	-3.7%	505	8.0%	532	5.3%	13.8%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	31	33	8.2%	32	-3.0%	30	-6.3%	-9.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	249	276	11.1%	287	4.0%	308	7.3%	11.6%
Educational Services	52	52	1.5%	58	11.0%	59	1.7%	12.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	754	782	3.8%	805	2.9%	814	1.1%	4.1%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	66	64	-3.4%	66	3.1%	67	1.5%	4.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	355	366	3.2%	377	3.1%	394	4.5%	7.7%
Other Services, except Public Administration	524	504	-3.8%	506	0.4%	509	0.6%	1.0%
Public Administration	362	356	-1.7%	357	0.4%	358	0.3%	0.7%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 6,597 (Table 7 Units), up 1.0 percent compared to 6,530 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 1,108 and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises with 33.

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 6,802, up 3.1 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade 1,113 and the smallest number of annual average units 32 was found in management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 6,953, up 2.2 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade with 1,123 and the smallest number of annual average units with 30 was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 7 Wage - RLMA 6 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 6</b>	<b>\$499</b>	<b>\$514</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>\$538</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>\$562</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	470	483	2.9%	531	9.8%	552	4.0%	14.2%
Mining	676	756	11.9%	829	9.6%	907	9.4%	19.9%
Utilities	666	681	2.1%	734	7.8%	793	8.0%	16.5%
Construction	516	572	11.0%	572	-0.1%	621	8.6%	8.5%
Manufacturing	679	724	6.6%	739	2.1%	761	3.0%	5.2%
Wholesale Trade	558	577	3.4%	607	5.1%	668	10.0%	15.7%
Retail Trade	349	358	2.7%	376	4.9%	389	3.5%	8.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	603	644	6.8%	672	4.3%	701	4.3%	8.8%
Information	567	587	3.6%	619	5.4%	631	1.9%	7.4%
Finance & Insurance	558	577	3.5%	600	4.0%	638	6.3%	10.5%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	402	427	6.4%	429	0.4%	467	8.9%	9.3%
Professional & Technical Services	621	664	7.0%	646	-2.7%	632	-2.2%	-4.9%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1,076	1,050	-2.4%	1,371	30.5%	1,501	9.5%	42.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	429	390	-9.1%	416	6.6%	422	1.4%	8.1%
Educational Services	458	469	2.3%	504	7.5%	512	1.6%	9.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	562	588	4.5%	608	3.5%	630	3.6%	7.2%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	372	371	-0.3%	401	8.1%	423	5.5%	14.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	182	194	6.8%	205	5.5%	210	2.4%	8.1%
Other Services, except Public Administration	363	385	6.0%	387	0.5%	442	14.2%	14.7%
Public Administration	665	631	-5.1%	671	6.3%	705	5.1%	11.7%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$149 million to register a gain of 5.8 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$15 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$514 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,050 in the management of companies and enterprises sector to a low of \$194 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 7 Wage.

Total wages for 2005 increased approximately \$216 million to register a gain of 8.0 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$538, which was an average increase of \$24 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,371 in the management of companies and enterprises sector to a low of \$205 in the accommodations and food services sector.

Total wages for 2006 increased approximately \$169 million to register a gain of 5.8 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$562, which was an average increase of \$24 from 2005. The management of companies and enterprises sector (\$1,501) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$210) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 7 Wage. Rapides parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$605 and Catahoula parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$426.

Table 7 Employment

## RLMA 6 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	Percent	<u>2005</u>	Percent	<u>2006</u>	Percent	Percent
			<u>2003 to 2004</u>		<u>2004 to 2005</u>		<u>2005 to 2006</u>	<u>2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>98,556</b>	<b>101,220</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>104,429</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>105,933</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	2,154	2,135	-0.9%	2,187	2.4%	2,090	-4.4%	-2.1%
Mining	520	570	9.5%	638	12.0%	792	24.1%	39.0%
Utilities	992	975	-1.7%	977	0.2%	971	-0.6%	-0.4%
Construction	6,288	7,023	11.7%	7,319	4.2%	7,188	-1.8%	2.4%
Manufacturing	5,582	5,684	1.8%	5,757	1.3%	6,412	11.4%	12.8%
Wholesale Trade	3,088	3,407	10.3%	3,494	2.6%	3,268	-6.5%	-4.1%
Retail Trade	12,995	12,921	-0.6%	13,010	0.7%	13,063	0.4%	1.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	2,700	2,499	-7.4%	2,511	0.5%	2,738	9.0%	9.6%
Information	1,593	1,540	-3.3%	1,538	-0.1%	1,465	-4.7%	-4.9%
Finance & Insurance	3,023	3,088	2.1%	3,009	-2.6%	2,980	-1.0%	-3.5%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,039	1,292	24.4%	1,287	-0.4%	1,365	6.1%	5.6%
Professional & Technical Services	2,934	3,221	9.8%	4,414	37.0%	4,655	5.5%	44.5%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	718	713	-0.7%	691	-3.1%	678	-1.9%	-4.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	3,161	3,685	16.6%	4,617	25.3%	4,934	6.9%	33.9%
Educational Services	11,412	11,797	3.4%	10,726	-9.1%	10,841	1.1%	-8.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	20,237	20,840	3.0%	21,834	4.8%	21,989	0.7%	5.5%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,223	2,126	-4.4%	2,094	-1.5%	2,178	4.0%	2.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	6,868	7,165	4.3%	7,516	4.9%	7,665	2.0%	7.0%
Other Services, except Public Administration	2,308	2,247	-2.7%	2,261	0.6%	2,337	3.4%	4.0%
Public Administration	8,654	8,211	-5.1%	8,471	3.2%	8,206	-3.1%	-0.1%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 101,220 in the Alexandria RLMA (Table 7 Employment), an increase of 2.7 percent when compared to 98,556 in 2003. Employment in 6 of the 8 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 7.9 percent in Vernon parish, to the largest decrease of 1.1 percent in Avoyelles parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Alexandria RLMA with 20,840 employees, or 20.6 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 29,383, or 29.0 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 5,156 (5.1 percent); state workers averaged 6,710 (6.6 percent); and local government workers averaged 17,517 (17.3 percent), while the private sector made up 71.0 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 104,429 (Table 7 Employment), an increase of 3.2 percent when compared to 101,220 in 2004. Employment in 6 of the 8 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 5.8 percent in Vernon parish, to the largest decrease of 0.9 percent in Grant parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Alexandria RLMA with 21,834 employees, or 20.9 percent of total employment.

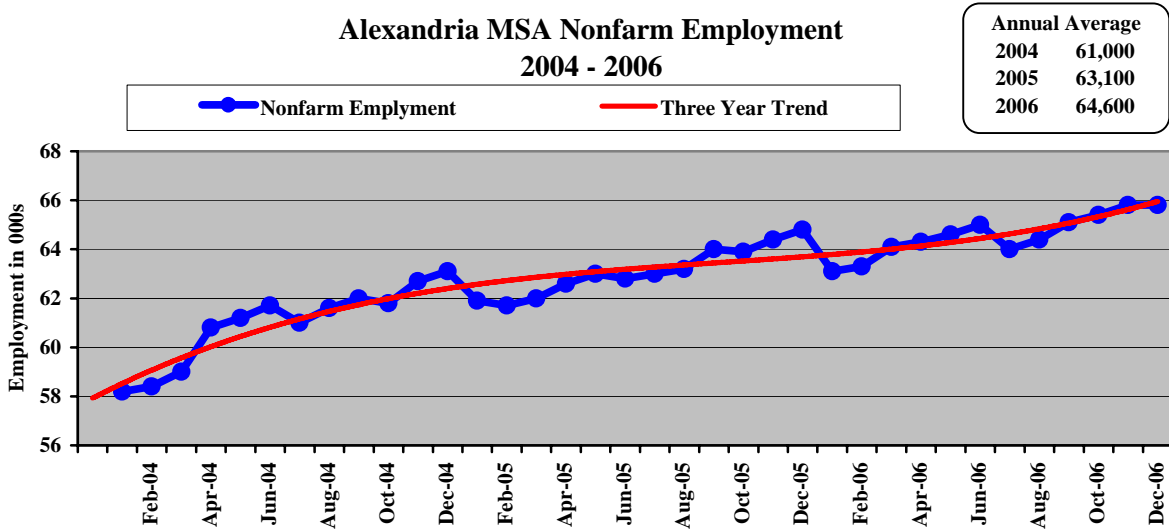
The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 29,245, or 28.0 percent of total employment, which was slightly down from 2004. Federal workers averaged 5,254 (5.0 percent); state workers averaged 6,831 (6.5 percent); and local government workers averaged 17,160 (16.4 percent), while the private sector made up 72.0 percent of employment.

Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 105,933 (Table 7 Employment), an increase of 1.4 percent when compared to 104,429 in 2005. Employment in 4 of the 8 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 6.6 percent in LaSalle parish, to the largest decrease of 2.0 percent in Catahoula parish. Health care and social assistance continued to be the leading industry in the Alexandria RLMA with 21,989 employees, or 20.8 percent of total employment.

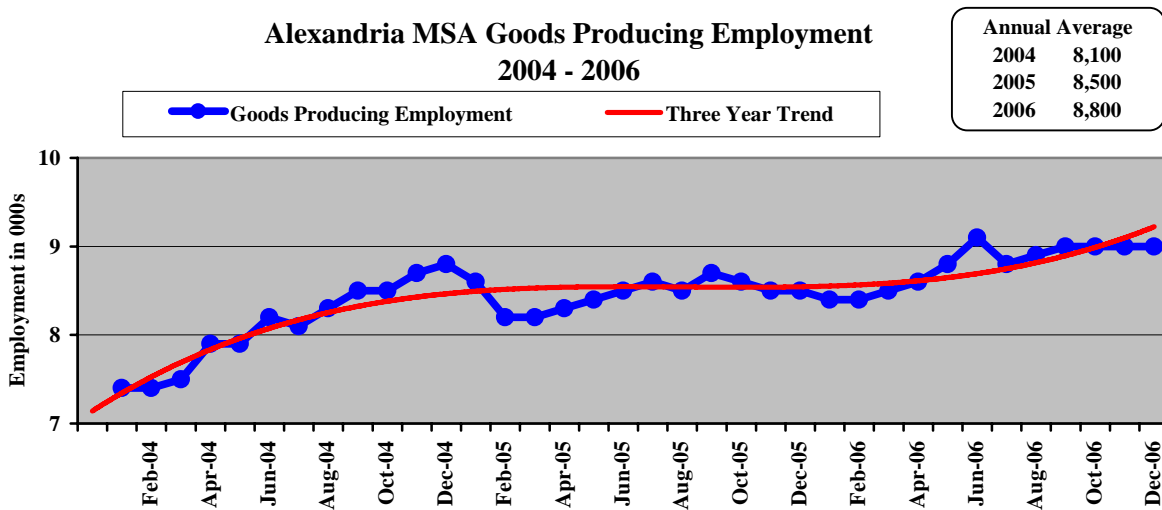
The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 28,892, or 27.3 percent of total employment, which was down slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 5,299 (5.0 percent); state workers averaged 6,641 (6.3 percent); and local government workers averaged 16,952 (16.0 percent), while the private sector made up 72.7 percent of employment.

Metropolitan Statistical Area : Grant and Rapides Parishes

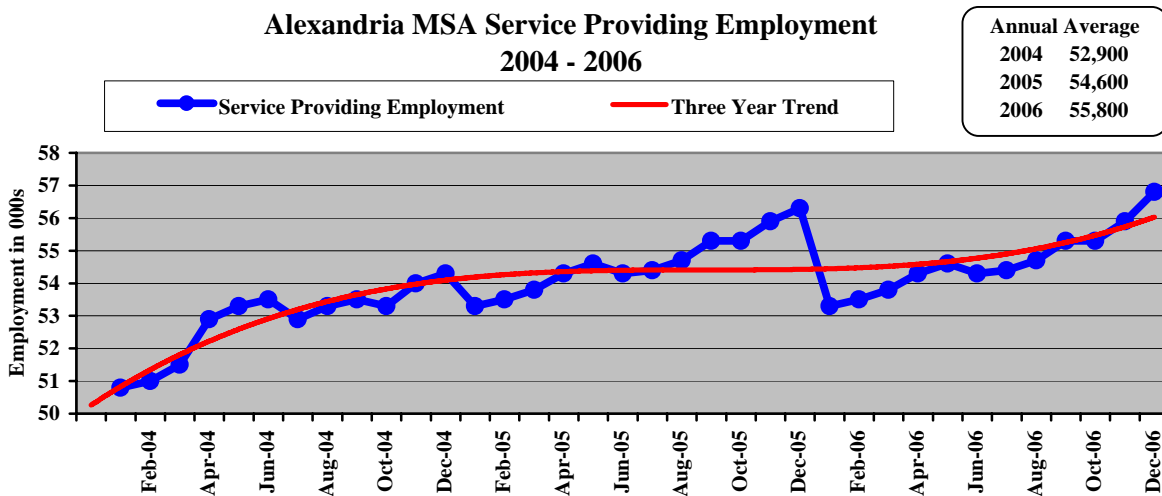
**Alexandria MSA Nonfarm Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Alexandria MSA Goods Producing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Alexandria MSA Service Providing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



The Alexandria Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the smallest of the eight metropolitan statistical areas in Louisiana. It is an MSA that consists of Rapides parish and Grant parish. It is an MSA that at the end of 2006 had its highest nonfarm employment total ever experienced. Service providing drives the MSA's nonfarm employment, with the super sector accounting for 86 percent of the nonfarm employment figure. An analysis of the last three years (2004-2006) of completed data and annual averages will be conducted to track the MSA's employment performance.

For the year of 2004, the Alexandria MSA nonfarm employment began the year at 58,200 jobs. The nonfarm annual average for 2004 was 61,000 compared to 2003's figure at 60,300, an increase in employment of 700 jobs. Service providing contributed with annual average employment for 2004 of 52,900 compared to 52,800 for 2003, representing an increase of 100 jobs. The goods producing annual average for 2004 was 8,100 compared to the 2003 annual average of 7,500 contributing 600 jobs to nonfarm employment. Employment took a turn in the positive direction for 2004 since 2003's nonfarm employment average was 300 less than the year before.

In 2005, nonfarm employment began the year with employment of 61,900 jobs. The annual average for 2005 was 63,100 compared to 2004's annual average of 61,00 resulting in an increase in nonfarm employment of 2,100 jobs. The natural disasters of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina in 2005 influenced the MSA with an unexpected growth in population and growth to employment. Goods producing, with an average of 8,500 for 2005 compared to the average for 2004 at 8,100, contributed 400 jobs to nonfarm employment. Service providing, with an average of 54,600 for 2005 compared to an average of 52,900 for 2004, contributed 1,700 jobs to nonfarm employment. Private service providing had a major role in the increase with an average increase for 2005 of 1,700 more jobs than the average for 2004.

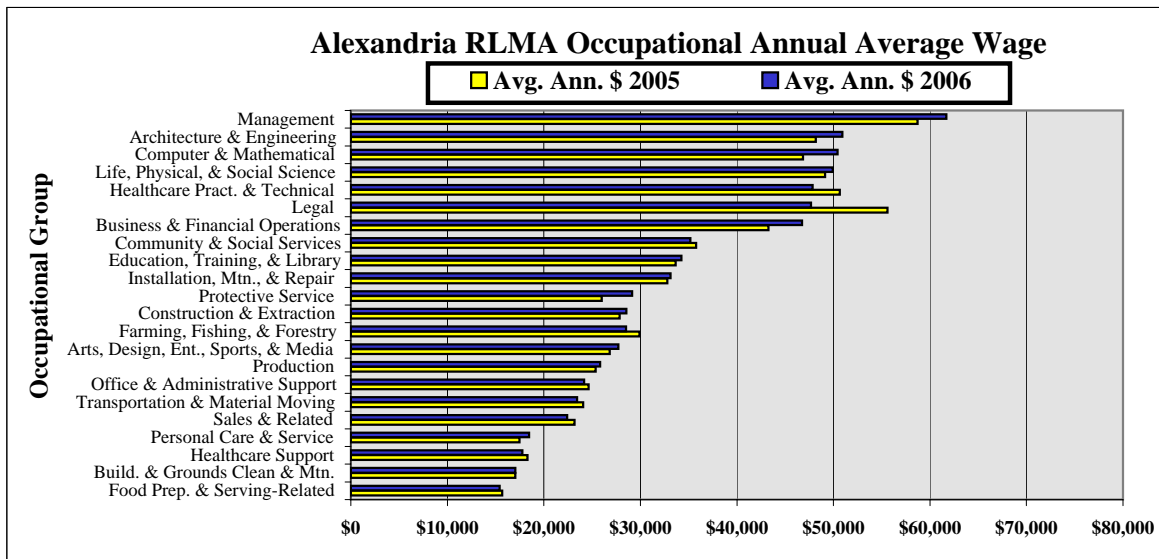
In 2006, nonfarm employment began the year with employment at 63,100 jobs. The average for 2006 was 64,600 compared to the average of 63,100 for 2005. This was an increase in nonfarm employment of 1,500 jobs. Goods producing, with an annual average for 2006 of 8,800 compared to 2005's average of 8,500, contributed 300 jobs to nonfarm employment. Service providing, with an annual average for 2006 of 55,800 compared to the annual average for 2005 of 54,600, boosted total nonfarm employment by 1,200 jobs. Private service providing influenced this job growth with the annual average for 2006 of 40,300 compared to 2005's average of 39,300 causing an increase of 1,000 jobs.

The Alexandria MSA employment numbers are moving in an upward direction. From 2004 to 2006, this MSA saw nonfarm annual average employment increase by 3,600 jobs, Service providing increase by 2,900 jobs, and goods producing increase by 700 jobs. The Alexandria MSA has had consistent growth over the 3-year period. The elevation in the number of jobs is expected to continue due to more business by way of expansions and new openings.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link

[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).





Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,668	15,408
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$17,055	17,031
Healthcare Support	\$18,313	17,785
Personal Care & Service	\$17,466	18,478
Sales & Related	\$23,163	22,417
Transportation & Material Moving	\$24,059	23,456
Office & Administrative Support	\$24,648	24,166
Production	\$25,370	25,821
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$26,829	27,701
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$29,904	28,504
Construction & Extraction	\$27,854	28,531
Protective Service	\$26,006	29,138
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$32,778	33,110
Education, Training, & Library	\$33,666	34,253
Community & Social Services	\$35,759	35,176
Business & Financial Operations	\$43,255	46,760
Legal	\$55,585	47,661
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$50,652	47,852
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$49,121	49,928
Computer & Mathematical	\$46,830	50,415
Architecture & Engineering	\$48,178	50,912
Management	\$58,718	61,705

The Alexandria RLMA is comprised of mostly service providing industries, and is the smallest of all regions in the state. The largest positive change over the year was noted in the Computer and Mathematical occupational group, up \$3,585. Business & Financial Operations posted the second largest increase at \$3,505 more than the 2005 annual average. Unlike other regional areas in the state, the Legal occupational group decreased by \$7,924 as a result of Lawyer's reported salary declining by \$16,056 from 2005 to 2006. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Physicians and Surgeons at \$155,840, while the lowest paid occupation was Cooks, Fast Food at \$14,113. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

## Regional Labor Market Area 6

**Table JVS 13**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	34	0	136	2.7%	0.0%	13.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	35	6	9	6.1%	0.9%	1.3%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	56	8	224	1.6%	0.2%	6.1%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	8	25	242	0.4%	1.0%	8.5%
Community and Social Services Occupations	0	5	38	0.0%	0.2%	2.2%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	0	47	18	0.0%	7.7%	4.1%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	113	165	621	2.0%	3.2%	12.1%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	0	28	113	0.0%	0.4%	1.6%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0	20	19	0.0%	1.2%	1.9%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	427	304	504	5.2%	4.0%	5.9%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	194	207	385	2.7%	2.7%	4.8%
Healthcare Support Occupations	82	120	167	2.3%	3.0%	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	55	119	633	1.3%	2.5%	12.3%
Legal Occupations	32	0	0	4.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	0	6	4	0.0%	1.2%	0.7%
Management Occupations	174	27	90	3.2%	0.5%	1.8%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	5	22	5	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	71	305	372	0.5%	1.9%	2.3%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	72	78	455	2.0%	2.2%	13.8%
Production Occupations	111	151	408	2.4%	3.4%	9.5%
Protective Service Occupations	45	17	85	1.0%	0.4%	2.0%
Sales and Related Occupations	380	270	370	4.1%	2.7%	3.7%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	393	185	810	5.8%	2.3%	9.6%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>5,706</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 6

**Table JVS 14**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	138	144	233	2.2%	2.0%	3.2%
Education & Health Services	325	516	971	1.0%	1.6%	2.9%
Financial Activities	106	24	78	2.6%	0.6%	1.8%
Information	9	20	7	0.6%	1.3%	0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	691	349	913	7.9%	3.6%	9.1%
Manufacturing	56	255	518	1.0%	4.5%	8.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	51	20	8	1.8%	0.7%	0.3%
Other Services	128	6	1,276	5.6%	0.3%	53.4%
Professional & Business Services	100	119	431	1.4%	1.3%	4.0%
Public Administration	*	14	62	*	0.2%	0.8%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	686	648	912	3.5%	3.3%	4.6%
Unclassified	0	0	297	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>5,706</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

**Regional Labor Market Area 6**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 2,290 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.5 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately two and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (691) was found in the industry group of leisure and hospitality (Table JVS 14), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in food preparation and serving related with 427 (Table JVS 13). Approximately 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Alexandria regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 65 percent of the vacancies. More than 60 percent of all job vacancies paid hourly wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were cashiers; laborers and freight, stock and material movers; waiters and waitresses; combined food preparation and serving workers; and truck drivers, heavy or tractor trailer. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

In comparison, there were 2,116 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.0 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were two vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (648) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 14), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in office and administrative support with 305 (Table JVS 13). Nearly 75 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Alexandria regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in more than 60 percent of the job vacancies. Jobs paying in the range of \$5.15 to \$7.00 made up 50 percent of the vacancies. The top five job openings were cashiers; customer service representatives; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; carpenters; and registered nurses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they are seeking.

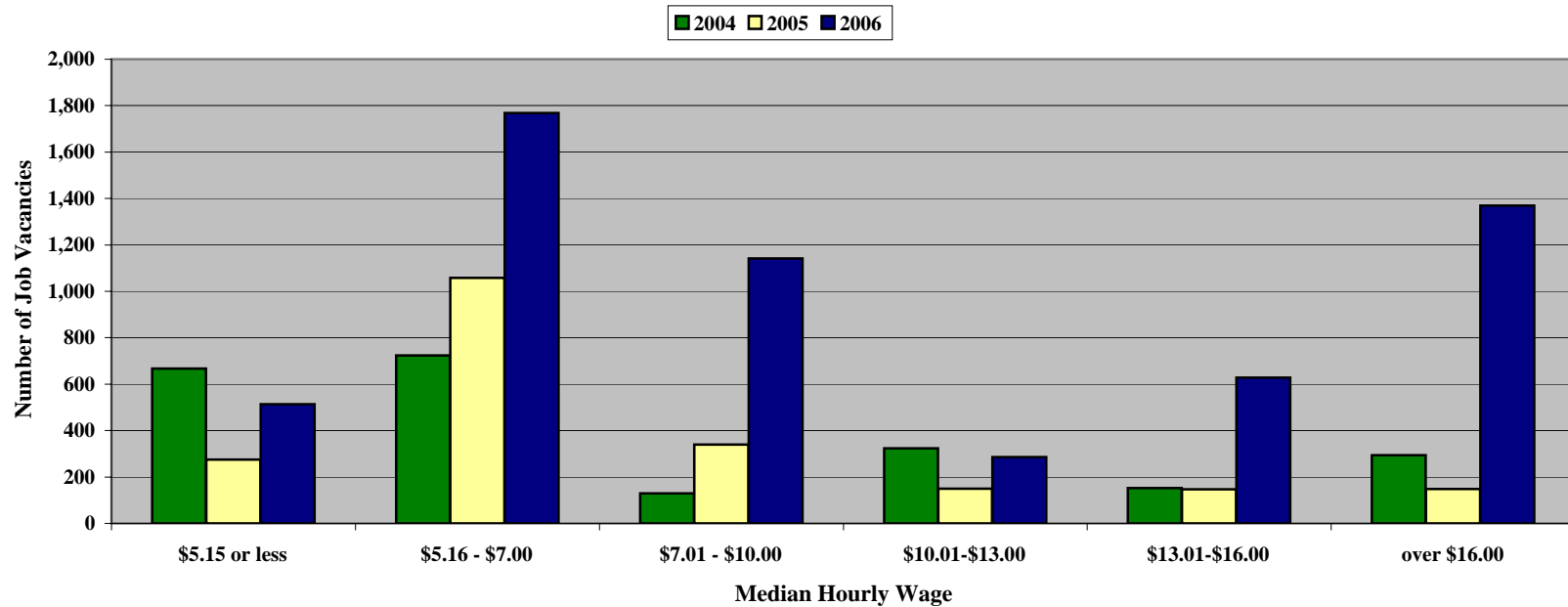
In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 5,706 job vacancies reported resulting in a 5.3 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were a little more than five vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,276) was in other services (Table JVS 14), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in transportation and material moving with 810 (Table JVS 13). More than two-thirds (70 percent) of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Alexandria regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in 63 percent of the job vacancies. Over 30 percent of the vacancies fell in the median hourly wage range of \$5.16-\$7.00, while 24 percent of the vacancies fell in the over \$16.00 range. The top five job openings were truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists; cashiers; welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers; and paving, surfacing and tramping equipment operators. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people who wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted.

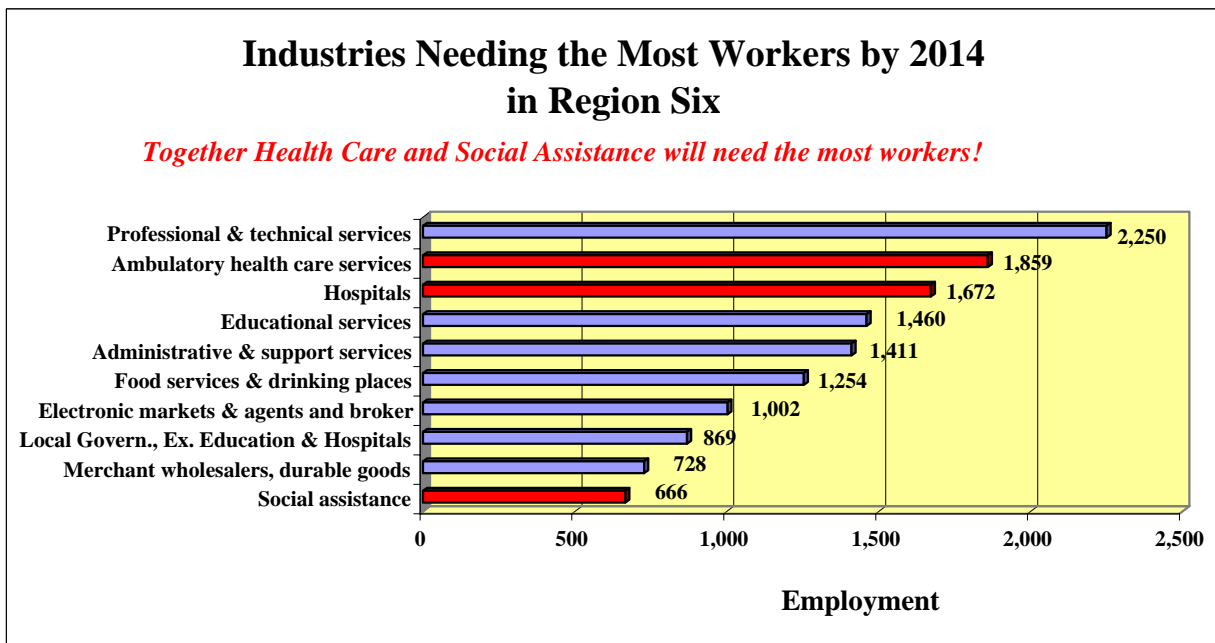
Regional Labor Market Area 6

The number of job vacancies reported decreased by 8 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 170 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase was primarily a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the state. During this three-year period, leisure and hospitality; trade, transportation and utilities; and education and health services jockeyed for the leading industry group. In 2006, other services had the largest number of job vacancies. The occupational group with the largest number of job vacancies varied in the three-year period. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 7 when the number of job vacancies in the range of \$5.16-\$7.00 increased 144 percent over 2004 and the range \$7.01 to \$10.00 increased 178 percent over the same time period. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

RLMA 6 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results

Figure: JVS 7





Industry employment was projected to grow by 14 percent or 15,544 workers by 2014. The 2004 to 2014 industry projections for the Alexandria regional labor market area will need workers in most major industry sectors. As evident in most regions of the state health care and social assistance will add the most new jobs. Region six will need 4,197 more workers in the health care and social assistance industries by 2014. Other industries adding workers are:

Professional and technical services are projected to increase by 2,250 workers. The 2004 level of 3,110 reached half of this goal by the fourth quarter of 2006 with an additional 4,394 workers. Employers in this industry include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping, and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services and photography studios are also included in this industry sector.

Educational services will need 1,460 works. Employers in this industry hire teachers from pre-school through high school, as well as community colleges and technical schools.

Growing jobs in the administrative and waste services sector can be found in the industries of temporary help services and employment placement services. Security systems, armored car companies, and travel agencies are also in this sector along with companies that provide waste remediation and treatment services.

Local governments are responsible for providing police protection, administering community and housing programs, as well as economic programs to attract new businesses and population to the region. They have a direct impact on keeping the economy viable and will need over 800 additional workers by 2014.

This sector comprises two main types of wholesalers: merchant wholesalers that sell goods on their own account and business-to-business electronic markets, agents, and brokers that arrange sales and purchases for others generally for a commission or fee. These sectors will add 1,700 workers to this region's economy.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 6 : Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, & Winn

*Fastest Growing Occupations Through 2014 Ranked by Percent Growth*

Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage	Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage
<b>Master's degree</b>			<b>Moderate-term Training. &amp; Exp.</b>		
6	Urban and Regional Planners	\$35,854	1	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	\$55,945
21	Clergy	\$48,078	5	Surveying and Mapping Technicians	\$29,765
<b>Work Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher degree</b>			12	Tax Preparers	\$24,845
19	Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$64,227	13	Medical Assistants	\$19,266
20	Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$54,156	<b>Post Secondary Technical Award</b>		
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>			2	Farm Equipment Mechanics	\$28,842
16	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	\$43,454	4	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$30,116
18	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$46,017	9	Legal Secretaries	\$36,057
23	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$19,685	15	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	\$47,332
24	Civil Engineers	\$63,793	22	Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	\$26,804
<b>Associate degree</b>			<b>Short-term Training. &amp; Exp.</b>		
3	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$38,198	8	Home Health Aides	\$17,529
14	Dental Hygienists	\$42,707	11	Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	\$16,148
17	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$45,834			

The Alexandria regional labor market area will require a variety of occupations and skill levels in the future. The chart above shows the minimum educational requirements and the annual average wage in Region 6 in 2006 for these occupations with the most demand by 2014.

Four of the fastest growing occupations by percent were in the health care field. High demand in health related occupations has been the trend statewide and for each region.

The Alexandria area has a high demand for workers in computer related fields Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts and Network and Computer Systems Administrators were also in the list of high projected growth and above average wages for the nation. See the link: [www.bls.gov/spotlight](http://www.bls.gov/spotlight)

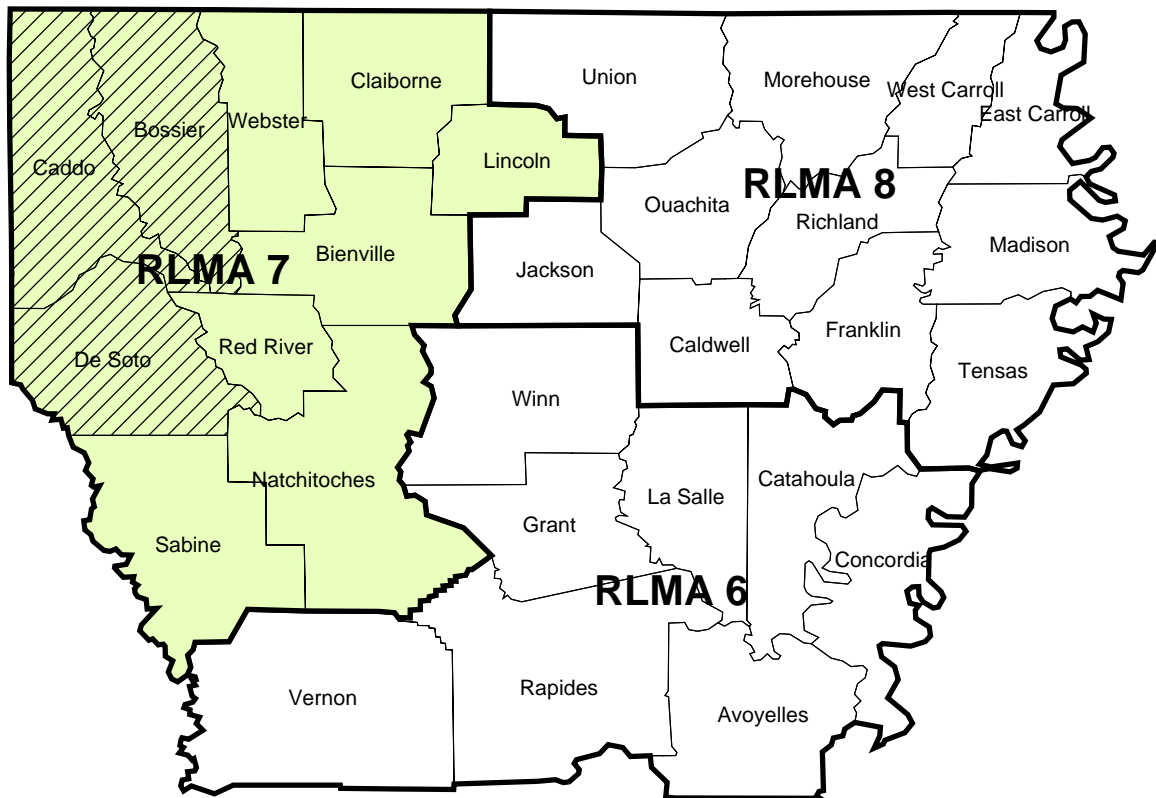
Most of the occupations with the highest wages require a bachelor's degree or higher. Civil engineers and advertising and promotion managers each averaged over \$63,000 annually in Region 6.

For individuals that enjoy hands-on jobs, occupations in farm equipment and industrial machinery mechanics will be in high demand. The labor force will also need workers who are qualified aircraft mechanics and service technicians for the Alexandria region. These occupations are also a good place for women who want to work in a nontraditional occupational setting.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

# Louisiana

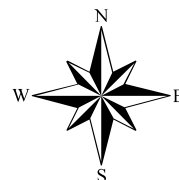
## Regional Labor Market Area 7 and Shreveport - Bossier City MSA



### Legend

- RLMA 7
- Shreveport - Bossier City MSA

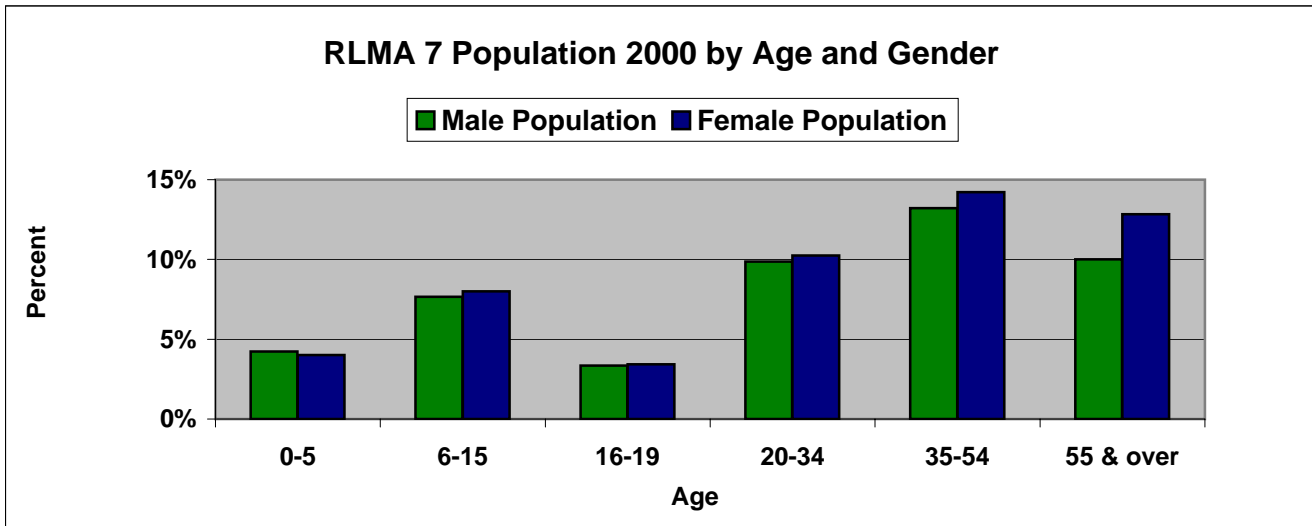
Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
 Research and Statistics GIS Program  
 August 2007



0 25 50 100 Miles



Regional Labor Market Area 7: Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, De Soto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Webster Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

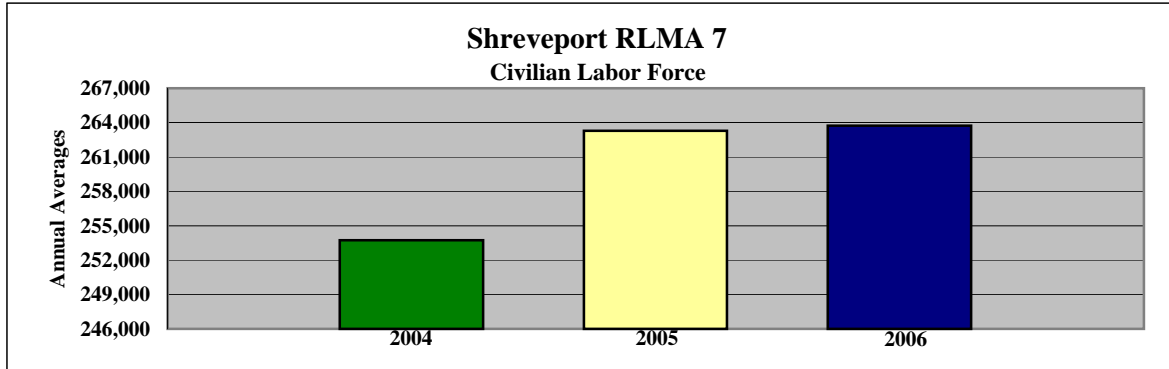
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 7	565,069	46,631	85,657	38,336	113,724	155,027	125,694
Males	269,813	23,945	43,277	18,967	55,771	74,714	53,139
Females	295,256	22,686	42,380	19,369	57,953	80,313	72,555

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 7	100%	8%	16%	6%	20%	27%	23%
Males	48%	4%	8%	3%	10%	13%	10%
Females	52%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	13%

Regional Labor Market Area 7 (RLMA 7) population for 2000 matched the statewide distribution of males and females with 48 percent and 52 percent respectively. RLMA 7 had an equal percentage of males and females from birth to 34 years old. The female population aged 35 to 54 increased 1 percent above the male population for that age group. The female population continued to increase over the male population by 3 percent for 55 year olds and over.

Regional Labor Marke

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
BIENVILLE	6,085	7.8%	6,283	6.7%	6,297	4.4%
<b>BOSSIER</b>	48,952	5.1%	51,711	5.0%	51,853	3.3%
<b>CADDO</b>	113,532	5.8%	117,935	5.6%	118,361	4.0%
CLAIBORNE	6,907	6.3%	6,952	5.9%	6,858	4.2%
<b>DESOTO</b>	11,006	7.0%	11,448	6.4%	11,439	4.3%
LINCOLN	18,345	6.1%	18,673	6.4%	18,580	4.2%
NATCHITOCHE	17,253	6.0%	17,907	6.4%	17,758	4.1%
RED RIVER	3,552	9.3%	3,345	8.2%	3,271	5.5%
SABINE	9,292	5.7%	9,494	5.7%	9,641	3.4%
WEBSTER	18,818	6.5%	19,524	5.9%	19,661	3.9%



The number of persons in the Shreveport labor force has increased by almost 10,000 in the period covering 2004 to 2006. The bulk of the increase occurred from 2004 to 2005. About 9,500 persons were added to the area's labor force during that time, with Bossier and Caddo parishes primarily responsible for the increase. All parishes in the area except Red River experienced increases in their labor force in 2005. The labor force remained at an almost constant level for 2006. Six out of the 10 parishes saw decreases to their labor forces in the year. Employment for the area also saw increases through the years, behaving similar to the labor force, in that most of the growth occurred in 2005. The number of unemployed person in Shreveport decreased from 2004 to 2006. Most regions in the state saw unemployment rates rise in 2005, however Shreveport did the opposite. With the exception of two parishes, unemployment rates in the area decline from 2004 to 2006. Current conditions in Shreveport demonstrate that the labor force and employment are on a steady increase and expanding along with the area.

**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.

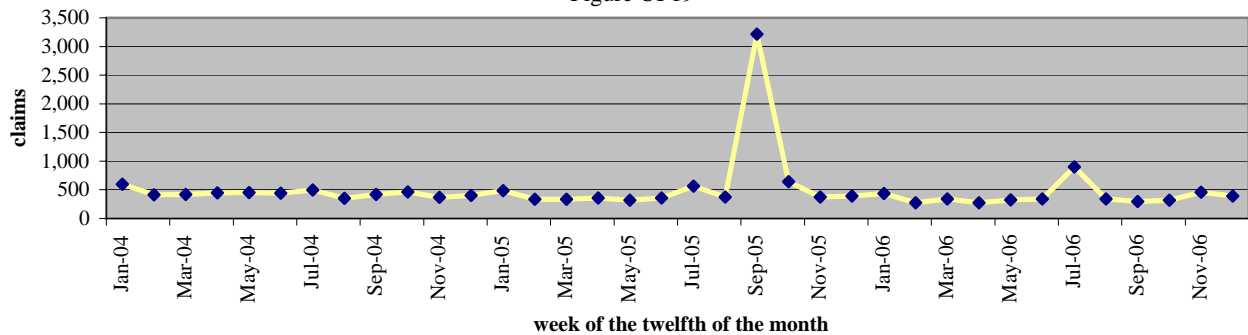
\*\*\*Parishes in **bold** are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 7

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 7</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>4,198</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>5,672</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>3,816</b>
BIENVILLE	14	156	18	161	11	102
<b>BOSSIER</b>	66	644	109	973	58	592
<b>CADDO</b>	189	1,913	293	2,573	189	1,875
CLAIBORNE	11	94	10	120	11	88
<b>DESOTO</b>	20	230	25	240	15	177
LINCOLN	31	278	42	438	26	280
NATCHITOCHEs	34	289	79	501	31	267
RED RIVER	16	117	11	92	8	62
SABINE	17	116	22	157	12	81
WEBSTER	40	362	38	418	31	292

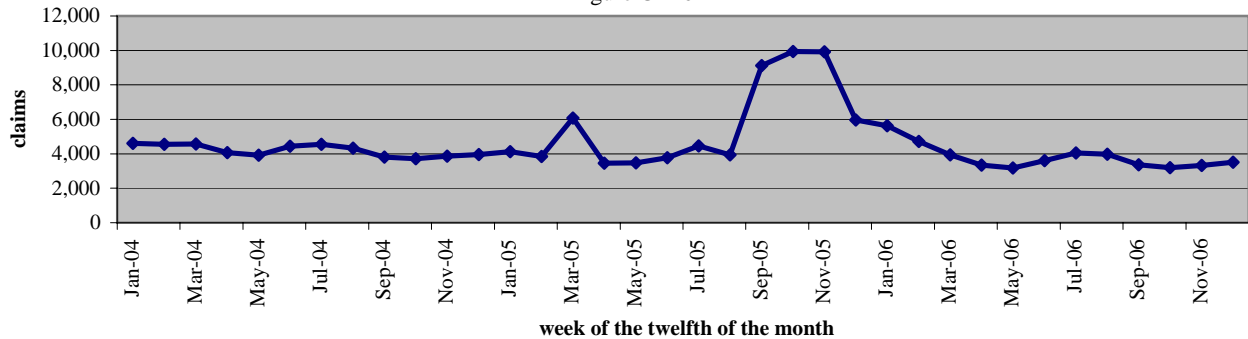
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 19



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 20

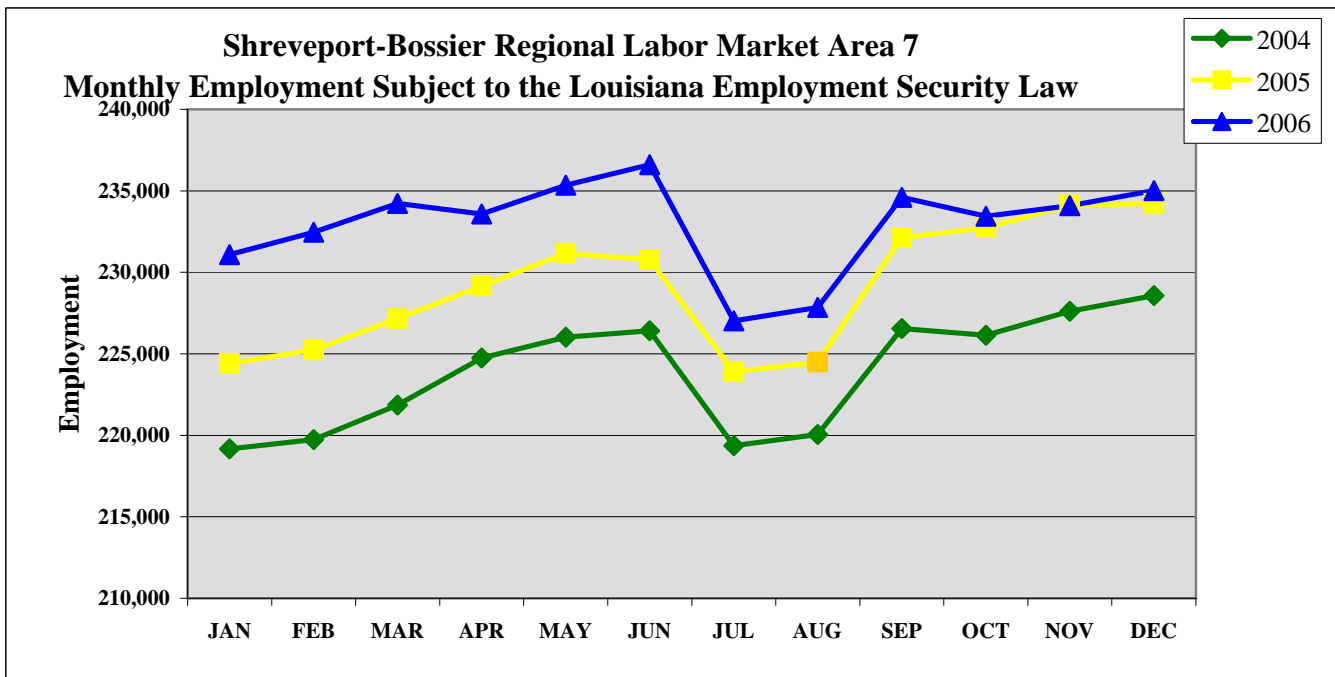


\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 7 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Shreveport RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 7). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Shreveport MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 7 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 19 and UI 20 indicate the number of claims in the Shreveport RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Shreveport RLMA claims were moderately affected by the 2005 hurricane season compared to other labor market areas. Initial Claims increased from 376 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 3,217 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in November 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 3,932 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 9,922 claims for the same week in November 2005. In March 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 3,566 claims for the week of the twelfth.

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment increased by 8,630 or 3.9 percent (Table 8 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 5.5 percent and 7.2 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 7 of the 10 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 9.1 percent in Bossier parish, to the largest decrease of 14.9 percent in Red River parish. The professional and technical services sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 106 units, a 9.7 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in mining with an increase of \$341, a 42.0 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).

## Table 8 Units

## RLMA 7 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	2003	2004	Percent	2005	Percent	2006	Percent	Percent
			Change		Change		Change	Change
			2003 to 2004		2004 to 2005		2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>13,791</b>	<b>13,816</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>14,209</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>14,582</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	286	277	-3.2%	282	2.0%	280	-0.7%	1.3%
Mining	279	277	-0.5%	292	5.4%	319	9.2%	15.2%
Utilities	138	139	0.9%	141	1.6%	139	-1.4%	0.2%
Construction	1,306	1,315	0.7%	1,358	3.3%	1,401	3.2%	6.6%
Manufacturing	499	497	-0.4%	492	-1.0%	508	3.3%	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	835	822	-1.5%	834	1.5%	848	1.7%	3.2%
Retail Trade	2,032	2,031	0.0%	2,076	2.2%	2,128	2.5%	4.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	497	493	-0.8%	516	4.7%	534	3.5%	8.3%
Information	205	210	2.2%	228	8.8%	225	-1.3%	7.4%
Finance & Insurance	925	946	2.3%	972	2.7%	986	1.4%	4.2%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	629	642	2.1%	658	2.5%	679	3.2%	5.8%
Professional & Technical Services	1,107	1,099	-0.7%	1,146	4.3%	1,205	5.1%	9.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	50	57	13.9%	60	4.8%	67	11.7%	17.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	603	605	0.4%	655	8.2%	665	1.5%	9.9%
Educational Services	97	96	-0.5%	99	3.1%	107	8.1%	11.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,270	1,283	1.0%	1,345	4.8%	1,387	3.1%	8.1%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	175	184	5.2%	187	1.8%	204	9.1%	11.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	877	899	2.5%	929	3.4%	955	2.8%	6.3%
Other Services, except Public Administration	1,488	1,456	-2.2%	1,460	0.3%	1,457	-0.2%	0.1%
Public Administration	434	425	-2.1%	430	1.1%	432	0.5%	1.6%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 13,816 (Table 8 Units), up 0.2 percent compared to 13,791 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (2,031) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises (57).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 14,209 (Table 8 Units), up 2.8 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (2,076) and the smallest number of annual average units (60) was found in management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 14,582 (Table 8 Units), up 2.6 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (2,128) and the smallest number of annual average units (67) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 8 Wage - RLMA 7 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 7</b>	<b>\$553</b>	<b>\$576</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>\$590</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>\$618</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	552	522	-5.4%	583	11.6%	595	2.1%	13.9%
Mining	735	810	10.3%	945	16.6%	1,151	21.8%	42.0%
Utilities	796	821	3.1%	875	6.6%	935	6.9%	13.9%
Construction	550	566	2.9%	600	6.1%	643	7.2%	13.7%
Manufacturing	818	873	6.7%	844	-3.3%	892	5.7%	2.2%
Wholesale Trade	753	780	3.7%	792	1.5%	839	5.9%	7.5%
Retail Trade	392	400	2.1%	406	1.4%	421	3.7%	5.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	678	720	6.3%	743	3.2%	774	4.2%	7.5%
Information	606	652	7.7%	688	5.5%	687	-0.1%	5.3%
Finance & Insurance	667	691	3.6%	720	4.2%	769	6.8%	11.3%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	442	463	4.7%	502	8.4%	544	8.4%	17.5%
Professional & Technical Services	688	706	2.5%	675	-4.3%	682	1.0%	-3.3%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	808	748	-7.4%	901	20.5%	791	-12.2%	5.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	345	378	9.5%	401	6.1%	408	1.7%	7.9%
Educational Services	564	574	1.7%	586	2.1%	600	2.4%	4.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	600	630	4.9%	644	2.2%	683	6.1%	8.4%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	435	463	6.5%	460	-0.6%	471	2.4%	1.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	201	205	1.7%	213	4.1%	219	2.8%	7.1%
Other Services, except Public Administration	384	400	4.3%	417	4.2%	429	2.9%	7.2%
Public Administration	650	678	4.2%	712	5.0%	731	2.7%	7.8%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$408 million to register a gain of 6.5 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$23 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$576 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$873 in the manufacturing sector to a low of \$205 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 8 Wage. Caddo parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$632 while Sabine parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$460.

Total wages for 2005 increased approximately \$318 million to register a gain of 4.7 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$590, which was an average increase of \$14 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$945 in the mining sector to a low of \$213 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 8 Wage. Caddo parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$642 while Red River parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$470.

Total wages for 2006 increased approximately \$449 million to register a gain of 6.4 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$618, which was an average increase of \$28 from 2005. The mining sector (\$1,151) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$219) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 8 Wage. Caddo parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$675 and Sabine parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$486.

## Table 8 Employment

## RLMA 7 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	Percent	<u>2005</u>	Percent	<u>2006</u>	Percent	<u>2004 to 2006</u>
			<u>Change</u> <u>2003 to 2004</u>		<u>Change</u> <u>2004 to 2005</u>		<u>Change</u> <u>2005 to 2006</u>	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>219,454</b>	<b>224,011</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>229,332</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>232,641</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	1,822	1,900	4.3%	1,740	-8.4%	1,755	0.9%	-7.6%
Mining	3,777	3,945	4.4%	4,388	11.2%	4,738	8.0%	20.1%
Utilities	2,012	2,037	1.2%	2,024	-0.6%	2,056	1.6%	0.9%
Construction	12,170	12,176	0.0%	12,562	3.2%	12,765	1.6%	4.8%
Manufacturing	22,754	22,963	0.9%	23,393	1.9%	22,946	-1.9%	-0.1%
Wholesale Trade	8,660	9,023	4.2%	9,542	5.8%	9,435	-1.1%	4.6%
Retail Trade	26,622	27,017	1.5%	27,836	3.0%	28,327	1.8%	4.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	6,955	7,198	3.5%	7,273	1.0%	7,356	1.1%	2.2%
Information	3,830	3,762	-1.8%	3,837	2.0%	3,764	-1.9%	0.0%
Finance & Insurance	6,513	6,459	-0.8%	6,267	-3.0%	6,339	1.1%	-1.9%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,554	3,599	1.3%	3,576	-0.6%	3,503	-2.0%	-2.7%
Professional & Technical Services	5,768	6,164	6.9%	7,468	21.2%	8,096	8.4%	31.3%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1,222	1,555	27.2%	1,471	-5.4%	2,041	38.7%	31.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	9,213	9,813	6.5%	10,307	5.0%	11,024	7.0%	12.3%
Educational Services	21,833	22,520	3.1%	22,624	0.5%	22,317	-1.4%	-0.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	38,875	39,381	1.3%	40,091	1.8%	41,131	2.6%	4.4%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11,253	11,286	0.3%	10,568	-6.4%	10,163	-3.8%	-10.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	16,932	17,590	3.9%	18,710	6.4%	19,101	2.1%	8.6%
Other Services, except Public Administration	5,897	5,833	-1.1%	5,778	-0.9%	5,677	-1.7%	-2.7%
Public Administration	9,626	9,647	0.2%	9,772	1.3%	10,018	2.5%	3.8%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)



Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 224,011 in the Shreveport RLMA (Table 8 Employment), an increase of 2.1 percent when compared to 219,454 in 2003. Employment in 9 of the 10 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 5.4 percent in Natchitoches parish, to a decrease of 5.2 percent in Red River parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Shreveport RLMA with 39,381 employees, or 17.6 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 47,303, or 21.1 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 5,378 (2.4 percent); state workers averaged 15,058 (6.7 percent); and local government workers averaged 26,867 (12.0 percent), while the private sector made up 78.9 percent of employment.

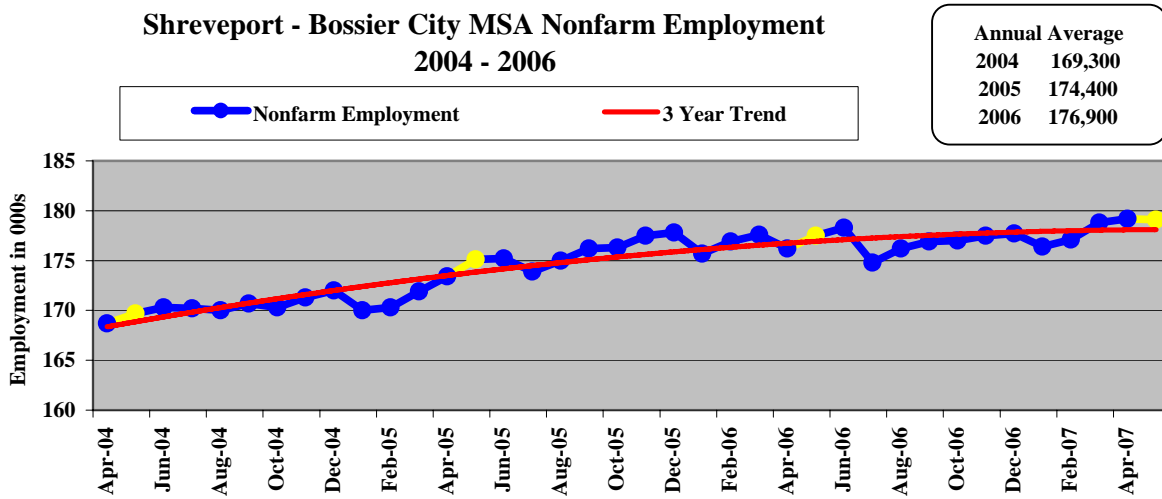
Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 229,332 (Table 8 Employment), an increase of 2.4 percent when compared to 224,011 in 2004. Employment in 7 of the 10 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 5.6 percent in Bossier parish, to the largest decrease of 10.5 percent in Red River parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Shreveport RLMA with 40,091 employees, or 17.5 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 47,515, or 20.7 percent of total employment, which was slightly up from 2004. Federal workers averaged 5,304 (2.3 percent); state workers averaged 15,227 (6.6 percent); and local government workers averaged 26,984 (11.8 percent), while the private sector made up 79.3 percent of employment.

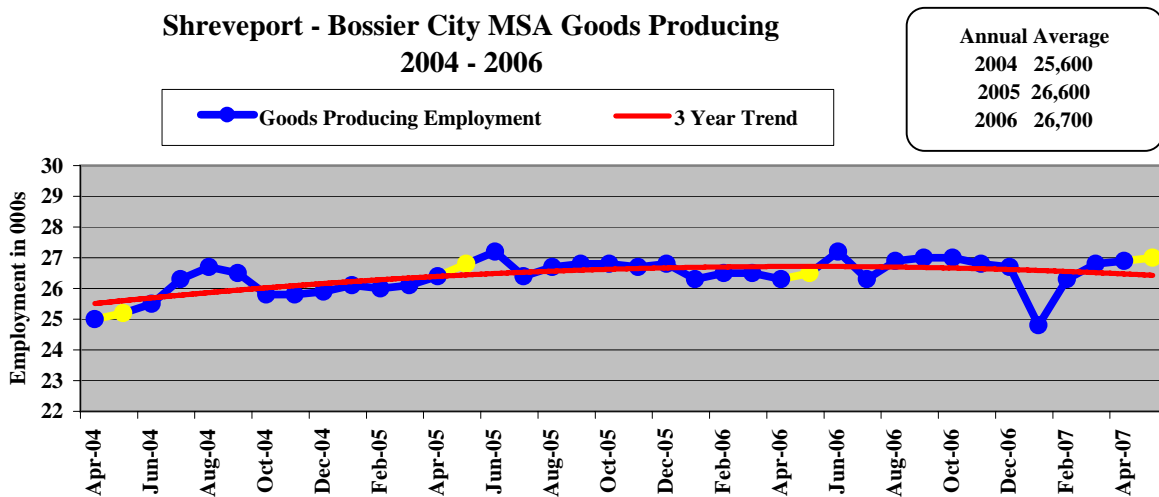
Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 232,641 (Table 8 Employment), an increase of 1.4 percent when compared to 229,332 in 2005. Employment in 7 of the 10 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 3.3 percent in Bossier parish, to the largest decrease of 4.8 percent in Red River parish. Health care and social assistance continued to be the leading industry in the Shreveport RLMA with 41,131 employees, or 17.7 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 47,294, or 20.3 percent of total employment, which was down slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 5,279 (2.3 percent); state workers averaged 15,212 (6.5 percent); and local government workers averaged 26,803 (11.5 percent), while the private sector made up 79.7 percent of employment.

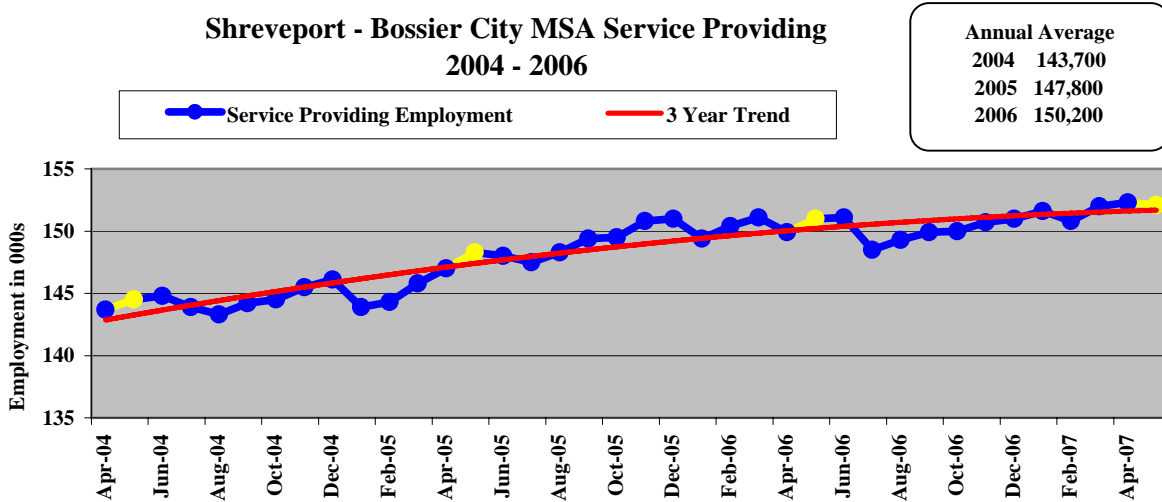
**Shreveport - Bossier City MSA Nonfarm Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Shreveport - Bossier City MSA Goods Producing  
2004 - 2006**



**Shreveport - Bossier City MSA Service Providing  
2004 - 2006**



The Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the third largest of the eight metropolitan statistical areas. Prior to the U.S. Census Bureau's redefining of the metropolitan statistical areas in 2003, Shreveport-Bossier MSA was made up of Bossier, Caddo & Webster parishes. The MSA consists of Desoto, Bossier and Caddo. The economic make-up of the Shreveport-Bossier MSA is service driven, just as the balance of state and other MSAs. Notably, this MSA has a large concentration of employment in the service providing industries. Factors such as temporary shutdowns, seasonal patterns and start-up and completion of projects have a strong influence on the movement of employment. The annual averages for 2004-2006 will be used to analyze the economic situation.

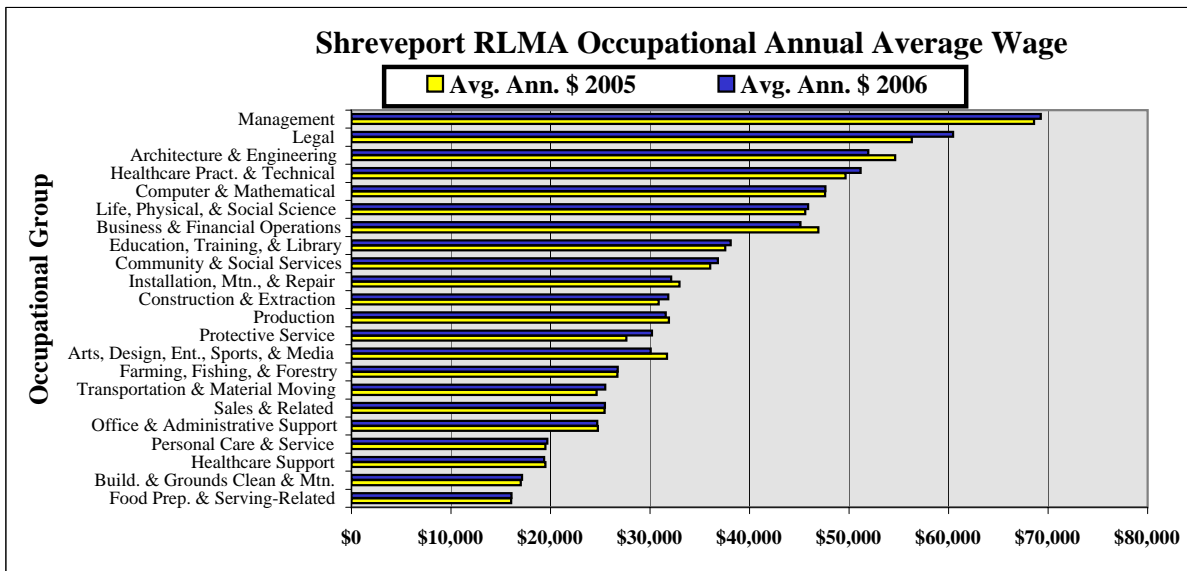
In 2004, the nonfarm employment in the Shreveport-Bossier city (MSA) was 165,300 for January. The year ended with employment of 172,000. Comparing, the 2003 annual average of 166,300 to the 2004 figure of 169,300, we see that the nonfarm employment increased 3,200. Goods producing employment, based on the 2003 figure 25,500 and the 2004 average of 25,600, showed an increase of 100 jobs. Service providing employment also moved up, recording an increase of 2,900 jobs. The averages for 2003 were 140,800 and for 2004 were 143,700.

In 2005, January's total for nonfarm employment was 170,000 and the year-end total was 177,800 with an annual average of 174,400. Compared to 2004 annual average of 169,300, the MSA experienced job growth of 5,100. Goods producing annual average for 2005 was 26,600 and for 2004 the annual average was 25,600, showing a decrease in employment of 1,000 jobs. For the same time period service providing employment had an annual average of 143,700 for 2004 and for 2005 an average of 147,800 representing growth of 4,100. Worthy of mentioning is the fact that the MSA encountered a sudden increase in population that can be attributed to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. An increase in population leads to more business and therefore, more employees.

In January 2006 the total nonfarm employment was 175,700 and by December was 177,700. The yearly average was 176,900. Compared to the 2005 annual average of 174,400 there was an increase of 2,500 jobs. Goods producing employment annual average for 2005 was 26,600 and for 2006 it was 26,700, showing growth of 100 jobs. Service providing yearly average for the Shreveport-Bossier area was 150,200 for 2006 and 147,800 for 2005 reflecting an increase of 2,400.

Looking at the annual averages for 2004-2006 it is quite evident that the Shreveport-Bossier MSA has experienced vibrant growth. Based on yearly averages, employment rose by 7,600 from 2004-2006. For this same period, goods producing increased 1,100, around 14.5% of the growth. Service providing on an average, gained 6,500, accounting for 85.5% of the total employment growth from 2004-2006.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link  
[http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$16,050	16,066
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$17,011	17,148
Healthcare Support	\$19,501	19,357
Personal Care & Service	\$19,490	19,677
Office & Administrative Support	\$24,772	24,695
Sales & Related	\$25,425	25,474
Transportation & Material Moving	\$24,645	25,508
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$26,722	26,754
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$31,694	30,051
Protective Service	\$27,627	30,207
Production	\$31,902	31,564
Construction & Extraction	\$30,856	31,824
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$32,966	32,118
Community & Social Services	\$36,050	36,812
Education, Training, & Library	\$37,553	38,093
Business & Financial Operations	\$46,925	45,108
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$45,583	45,870
Computer & Mathematical	\$47,583	47,619
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$49,643	51,170
Architecture & Engineering	\$54,624	51,920
Legal	\$56,312	60,462
Management	\$68,589	69,260

The Shreveport RLMA is the third largest regional area in the state. Although the Management occupational group reported the highest wage at \$69,260, it was the Legal occupational group that registered the largest over the year growth, up \$4,150. Protective Services ranked second in average annual growth, increasing \$2,580, while Healthcare Practitioners and Technical occupational group grew by \$1,527 from the 2005 level. A decline in wages occurred in Architecture and Engineering, down by \$2,704, followed by Business & Financial Operations, \$1,817 less than 2005. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Family and General Practitioners at \$183,642, while the lowest paid occupation was Gaming Dealers at \$13,214. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

## Regional Labor Market Area 7

**Table JVS 15**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	7	103	2	0.3%	4.7%	0.1%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	49	42	2	3.3%	2.5%	0.1%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	660	88	784	7.7%	1.0%	9.5%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	79	4	162	1.5%	0.1%	3.1%
Community and Social Services Occupations	30	43	46	1.0%	1.5%	1.4%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	41	0	130	3.1%	0.0%	7.6%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	730	341	540	6.3%	2.7%	4.6%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	60	113	95	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0	1	1	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	611	746	259	3.2%	4.0%	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	244	163	640	1.7%	1.2%	4.5%
Healthcare Support Occupations	108	92	94	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	419	649	520	3.6%	5.9%	4.5%
Legal Occupations	0	32	0	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	10	2	6	1.2%	0.2%	0.6%
Management Occupations	303	208	61	2.3%	1.7%	0.5%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	39	0	83	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	232	963	728	0.7%	2.7%	2.0%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	217	381	155	3.1%	4.8%	2.0%
Production Occupations	125	207	134	0.7%	1.2%	0.8%
Protective Service Occupations	2	31	42	0.0%	0.5%	0.7%
Sales and Related Occupations	1,653	356	525	7.5%	1.6%	2.2%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	841	404	387	5.4%	2.5%	2.2%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>6,459</b>	<b>4,968</b>	<b>5,397</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

## Regional Labor Market Area 7

Table JVS 16

## By Industry Group

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	999	425	748	8.0%	3.4%	5.9%
Education & Health Services	794	952	943	1.3%	1.5%	1.4%
Financial Activities	922	168	417	9.1%	1.7%	4.2%
Information	91	69	101	2.4%	1.8%	2.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,204	780	369	4.3%	2.6%	1.2%
Manufacturing	228	260	244	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	71	82	18	1.2%	1.3%	0.3%
Other Services	139	268	202	2.3%	4.6%	3.6%
Professional & Business Services	500	742	985	3.1%	4.0%	4.7%
Public Administration	*	128	122	*	1.3%	1.2%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	1,513	1,095	1,248	3.4%	2.4%	2.6%
Unclassified	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>6,459</b>	<b>4,968</b>	<b>5,397</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 7**

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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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 6,459 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.0 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,513) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 16), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in sales and related with 1,653 (Table JVS 15). Shreveport regional employers were seeking experienced workers in 75 percent of the vacancies with 75 percent of the job vacancies requiring a high school diploma or less. More than half of all job vacancies paid wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were retail salespersons; truck drivers, heavy or tractor trailer; janitors and cleaners; cashiers; and waiters and waitresses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

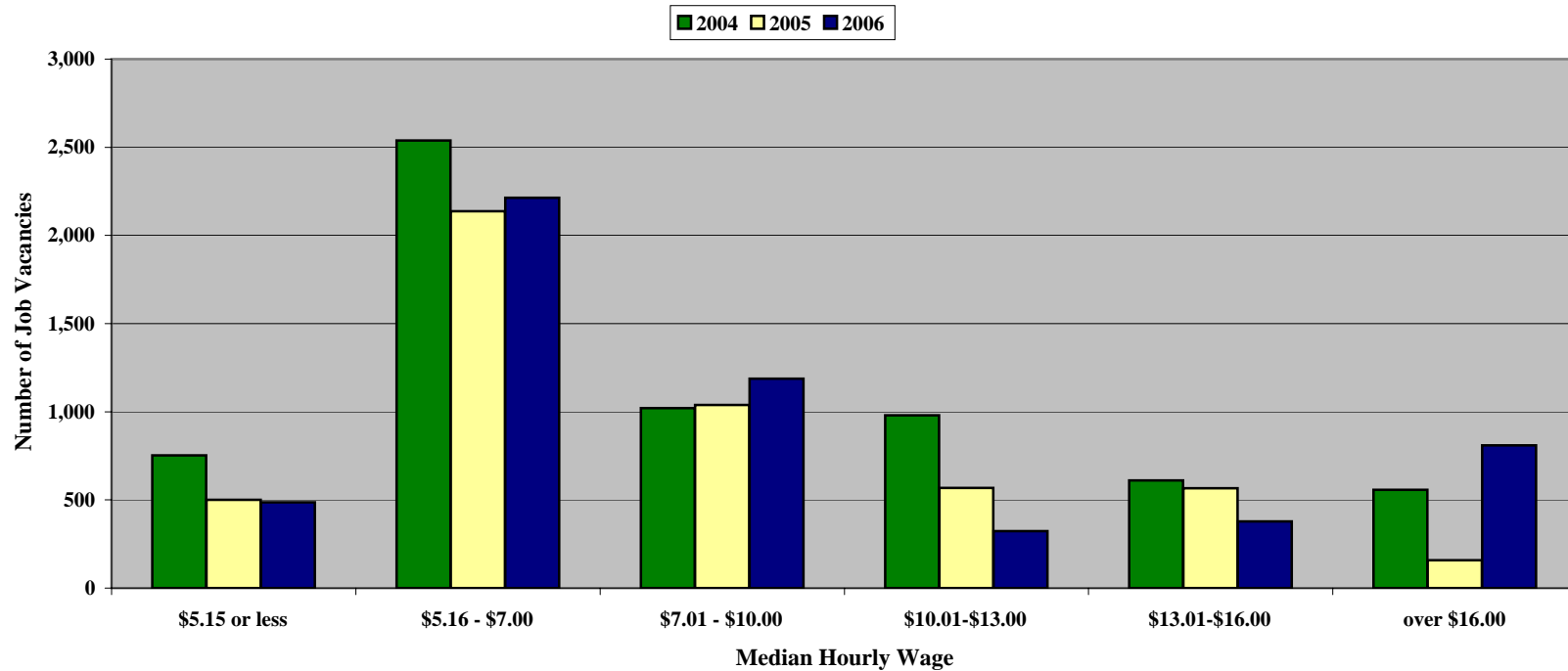
In comparison, there were 4,968 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.2 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were slightly more than 2 vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,095) was found in the industry group of trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 16), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in office and administrative support with 963 (Table JVS 15). Two thirds (67 percent) of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Shreveport regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly more than 70 percent of the job vacancies. More than 50 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were customer service representatives; security and fire alarm systems installers; personal and home care aides; retail salespersons; and waiters and waitresses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 5,397 job vacancies reported resulting in a 2.3 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately two vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,248) was in trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 16), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in building and grounds cleaning and maintenance with 784 (Table JVS 15). Slightly less than 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Shreveport regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in over 70 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly over 40 percent of the job vacancies paid \$5.16 to \$7.00. The top five job openings were janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners; retail salespersons; customer service representatives; receptionists and information clerks; and occupational therapists. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was they were unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

The number of job vacancies reported declined by 23 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 9 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase could be attributed somewhat to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita but not to the extent as the southern regions of the state. Consistently through all three years, trade, transportation and utilities was the industry group with the largest number of job vacancies. The occupational group with the largest number of vacancies changed from year to year. The largest number of job vacancies paid in the range of \$5.16-\$7.00 in all three years can be seen in Figure JVS 8. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

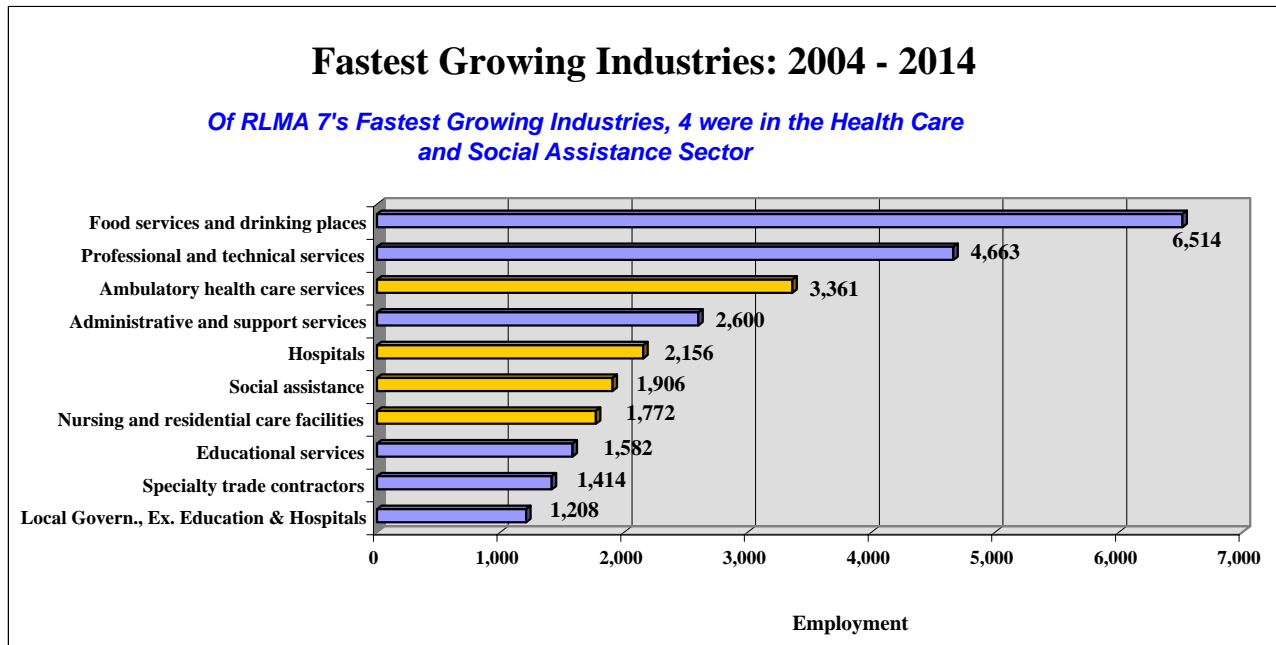
**RLMA 7 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results**

Figure: JVS 8





Regional Labor Market Area 7 : Bossier, Bienville, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Sabine, Red River, & Webster



The Shreveport - Bossier regional labor market area is projected to add 35,984 workers by 2014 or increase by 14.8 percent compared to the 6.1 percent increase for statewide.

The health care and social services industries are projected to need an additional 9,195 workers by 2014. Ambulatory health care is the fastest growing sector in this industry segment needing half of the projected increase. Workers in this industry segment will staff offices of physicians, dentist, and other health care practioners. Home health care services also falls under the health care umbrella.

Social assistance includes day care centers, child and youth services, and services for the elderly and disabled. In the coming years this industry will grow as the population ages.

Food services and drinking places is usually in the fastest growing industries across the state as well as nationally. Growth in this industry serves as a stepping stone for young people entering our labor force to obtain their first job. The on-the-job-training educational requirements help jump-start individuals into the world of work.

Industries in the professional and technical services industries include offices of attorneys, notaries, accounting and bookkeeping, and architectural and engineering services. Veterinary services and photography studios are also included in this sector that will need 4,663 additional workers by 2014.

Employment growth in administrative support services is a good economic indicator. One of the largest employing sectors in this industry is employment placement services and temporary help services. Both of these industries provide critical staff for companies that often lead to permanent positions with employers hiring them. Telemarketing bureaus, collection agencies, travel agencies and security services are also in the broad industry.

Rounding out the spectra of growing industries are educational services, specialty trade contractors and the local government providing community services and economic development.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 7 : Bossier, Bienville, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Sabine, Red River, & Webster

*Fastest Growing Occupations Through 2014 Ranked by Percent Growth*

Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage	Rank	Occupational Title/Education or Training Level	Annual Regional Wage
<b>First professional degree</b>			<b>Associate degree</b>		
5	Veterinarians	\$48,013	3	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$33,291
22	Lawyers	\$79,695	15	Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	\$35,570
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>			20	Dental Hygienists	\$58,223
1	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	\$73,814	<b>Moderate on the Job Training</b>		
4	Surveyors	\$43,400	7	Tax Preparers	\$26,543
8	Database Administrators	\$42,714	11	Medical Assistants	\$21,297
9	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$46,396	13	Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	\$37,702
12	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	\$42,069	14	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	\$33,791
16	Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	\$52,697	24	Dental Assistants	\$29,576
17	Petroleum Engineers	\$100,429	<b>Short Term Training or Experience</b>		
19	Civil Engineers	\$62,004	2	Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	\$17,366
23	Physician Assistants	\$53,808	6	Home Health Aides	\$17,713

The chart above shows the fastest growing occupations in the Shreveport region ranked by percent growth in these occupations by the year 2014. There are several observations about this occupational growth:

First is the diversity of occupations that students can use to focus their career studies and training to achieve. Occupations that are growing the fastest can be found in the computer field, health care system, the engineering professions, and careers for those who like to work with animals.

The occupations requiring the shortest amount of training and experience also pay the least according to the 2006 annual average wage survey. However, beginning your work experience in these fields can lead to higher paying jobs in the same areas of interest with additional education and years of experience.

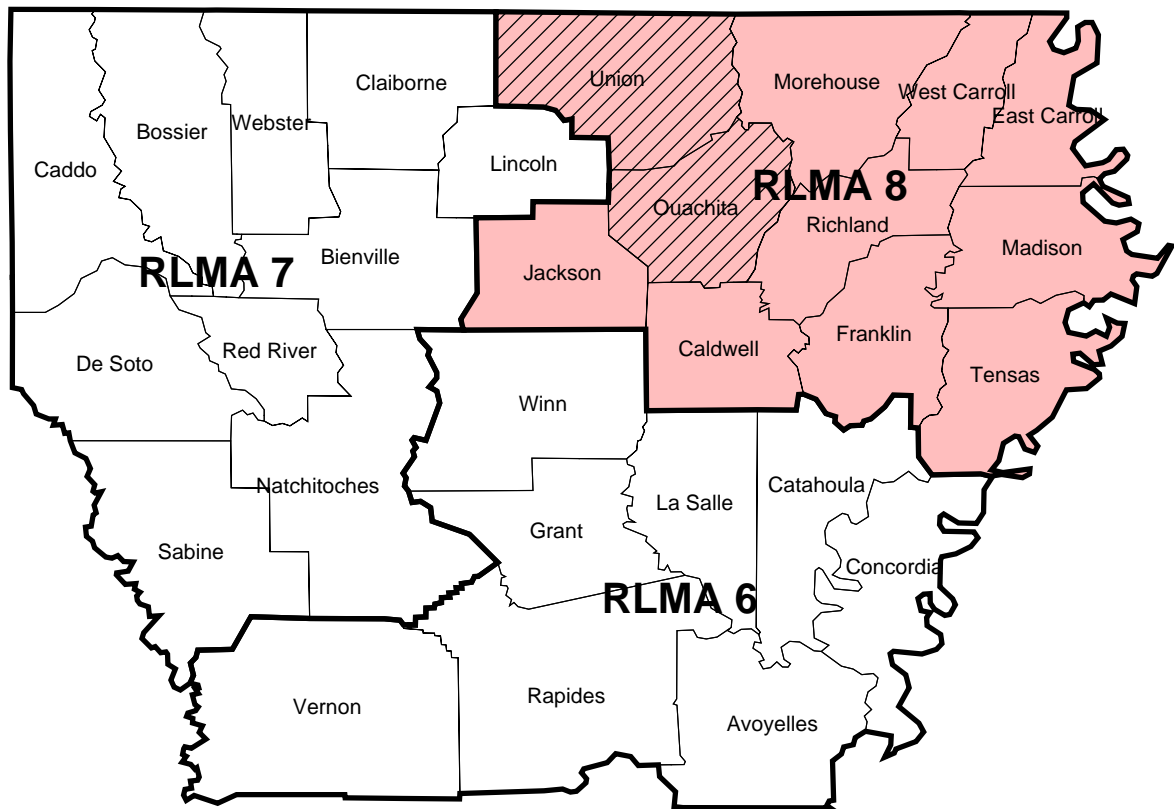
Many of the occupations with the highest percent growth can be found in multiple industry sectors. Database administrators and computer software engineers are in demand because of the changing nature of the global economy. Employers have to have staff that can network and grow their companies through the internet while maintaining the security of all computer operations and transactions.

Occupations in the oil and gas sector will be in demand as the need for these resources grows. Region 7 will need workers who are petroleum engineers and environmental technicians.



Workers in the medical field will see demand grow for home health aids, medical assistants, physicians and dental assistants as well as health technicians. Registered nurses, and licensed practical and vocational nurses ranked in the top 25 occupations by the number of workers needed.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

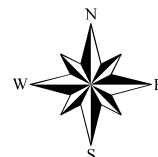
# Louisiana Regional Labor Market Area 8 and Monroe MSA



## Legend

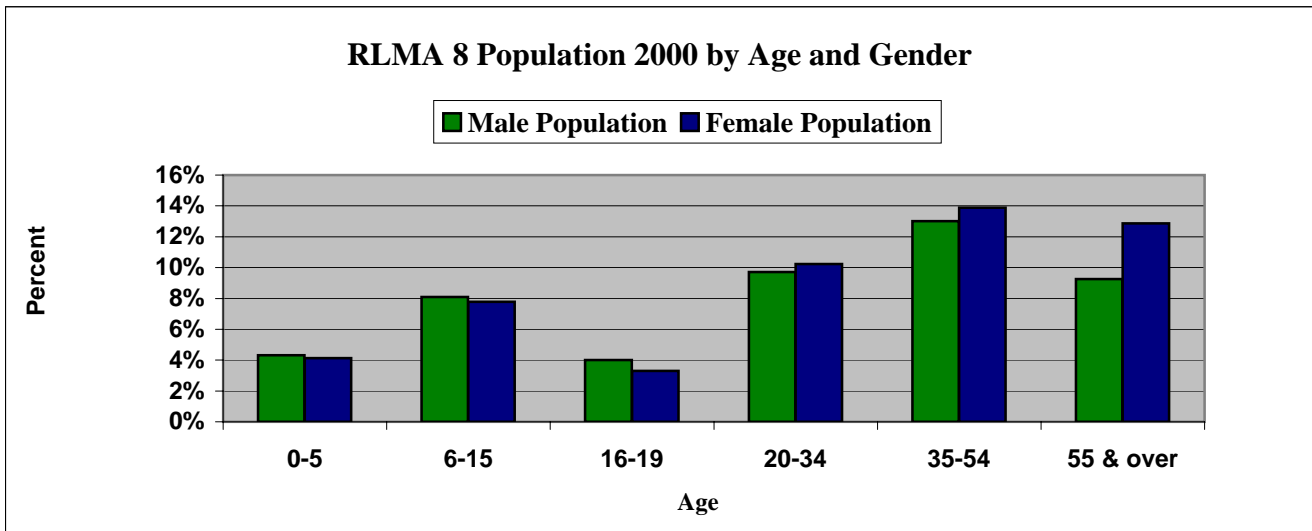
-  RLMA 8
-  Monroe MSA

Created by: Louisiana Department of Labor  
Research and Statistics GIS Program  
August 2007



0 25 50 100 Miles

Regional Labor Market Area 8: Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll Parishes



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 Universe: Total Population

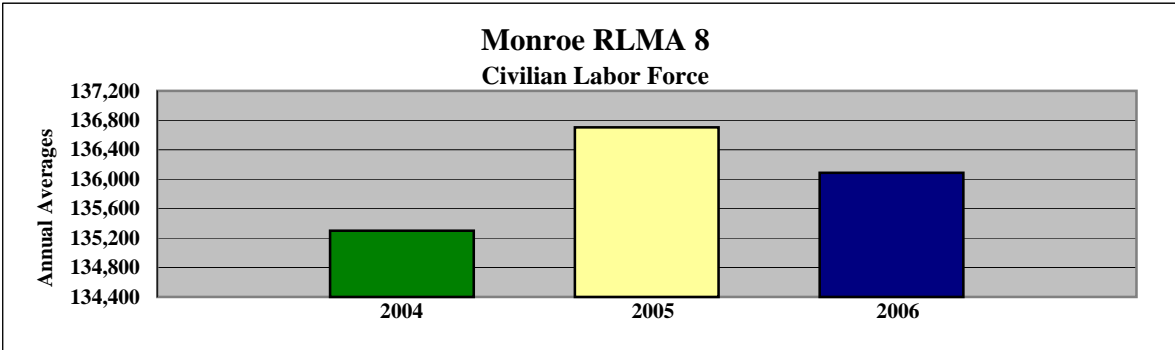
Category	Population						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 8	311,356	26,298	49,476	20,862	62,103	83,757	68,860
Males	148,859	13,447	25,216	10,598	30,254	40,541	28,803
Females	162,497	12,851	24,260	10,264	31,849	43,216	40,057

Category	Percent						
	Total	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 15	Age 16- 19	Age 20-34	Age 35 - 54	Age 55 & over
RLMA 8	100%	8%	16%	7%	20%	27%	22%
Males	48%	4%	8%	4%	10%	13%	9%
Females	52%	4%	8%	3%	10%	14%	13%

Regional Labor Market Area 8 (RLMA 8) population for 2000 mirrored the statewide percentages of males (48 percent) and females (52 percent). Males and females represented equal parts of the population from birth to 15 years old in this region. The age group of 16 to 19 year olds had 1 percent more males than females. Twenty to 34 year olds showed equal percentages of males and females in the population. Beginning with 35 year olds the female population out paced the male population by 1 percent of the 35 to 54 year olds. The largest increase of females to males, out of all of the RLMA 8s in Louisiana, was found in the RLMA 8 age group of 55 and over where the female population increased 4 percent over the male population.

Regional Labor Market Area 8

	2004 Annual Average		2005 Annual Average		2006 Annual Average	
	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate	Civilian Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
<b>PARISH</b>						
CALDWELL	4,276	8.0%	4,337	6.8%	4,374	3.8%
EAST CARROLL	3,017	12.8%	2,919	12.4%	2,982	8.0%
FRANKLIN	7,749	8.6%	7,827	8.5%	7,761	5.7%
JACKSON	6,419	6.2%	6,435	5.5%	6,437	3.8%
MADISON	4,670	9.2%	4,686	8.5%	4,649	5.5%
MOREHOUSE	11,881	9.5%	11,725	8.5%	11,475	6.0%
<b>OUACHITA</b>	71,621	5.3%	72,685	5.7%	71,950	3.7%
RICHLAND	8,452	7.7%	8,576	7.2%	8,560	4.7%
TENSAS	2,268	8.0%	2,300	13.0%	2,301	7.1%
<b>UNION</b>	10,394	6.1%	10,491	5.7%	10,394	3.9%
WEST CARROLL	4,555	12.2%	4,725	10.2%	5,202	5.8%



The Monroe RLMA is primarily an agriculture region. By agriculture being the main industry in the parishes that compose the area, the area is driven on seasonal patterns and therefore not susceptible to substantial growth over the years, Monroe has experienced an increase in its civilian labor force but layoffs in businesses other than agriculture, may have curtailed further growth. Looking at labor force from 1990 to 2006, the maximum growth seen in labor force at any given point throughout this time period was 9,500. Thus, labor force has experienced periods progressively increasing and decreasing. The major movements seen in the region can be attributed to Ouachita parish. Employment in the region has encountered the same type of sporadic fluctuations over the same time frame. The unemployment in the area has remained at relatively constant levels but appears to be on the decline. Present conditions in Monroe show that the labor force and employment have increased slightly from the 2006 level, while unemployment and rates continue to decrease. The region will be watched for future events and activities that occur in the area.

**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.

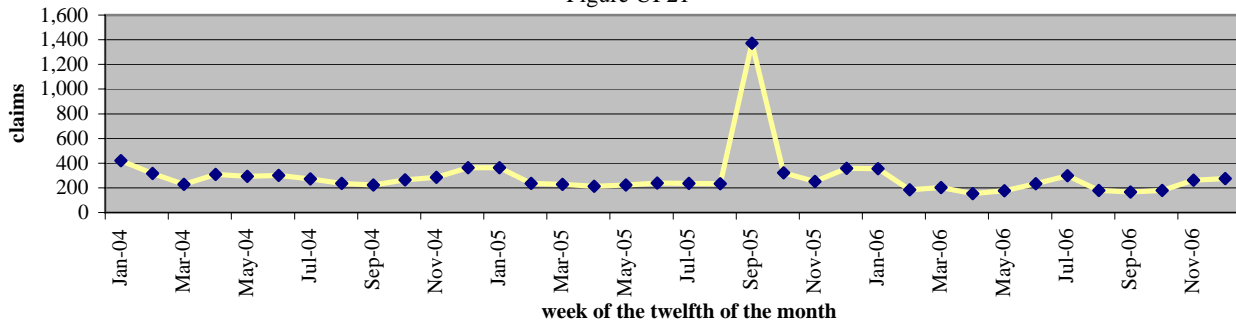
\*\*Parishes in bold are part of the The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definition. RLMAs computations are not BLS approved nor are they part of the approved methodology\*\*

Table UI 8

PARISH	2004 Annual Average*		2005 Annual Average*		2006 Annual Average*	
	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued	Weekly Initial	Weekly Continued
<b>RLMA 8</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>2,704</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>3,715</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2,254</b>
CALDWELL	10	106	12	101	7	52
EAST CARROLL	11	139	15	161	11	114
FRANKLIN	22	219	36	309	17	190
JACKSON	14	116	17	160	7	88
MADISON	10	119	14	154	9	85
MOREHOUSE	39	387	43	403	32	315
<b>OUACHITA</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1,668</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>986</b>
RICHLAND	21	217	22	248	15	162
TENSAS	4	54	19	193	5	64
<b>UNION</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>115</b>
WEST CARROLL	10	110	17	132	10	84

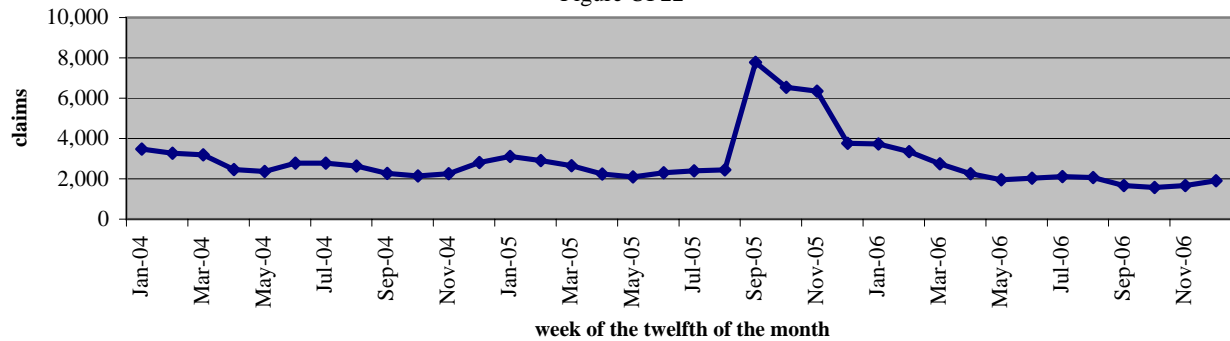
Weekly Initial Claims\*

Figure UI 21



Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed\*

Figure UI 22

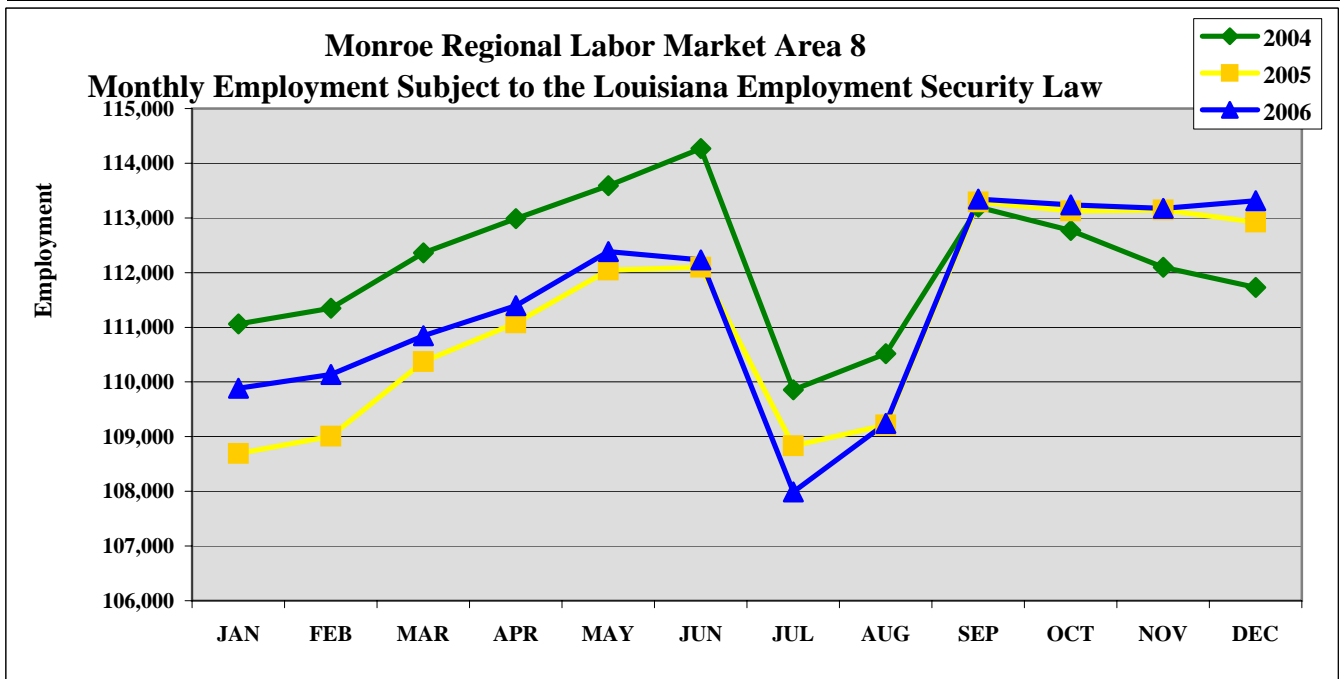


\* Weekly Initial Claims and Weekly Continued Weeks Claimed are for the week of the twelfth of each month. Annual averages are computed using these claims.

Table UI 8 lists the average weekly number of Initial Claims and Continued Weeks Claimed for the parishes that make up the Monroe RLMA (Regional Labor Market Area 8). Claims are recorded for the parish in which they were filed. Parishes in bold are part of the Monroe MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). The annual averages in Table UI 8 are taken from the week of the twelfth of each month of the year. Figures UI 21 and UI 22 indicate the number of claims in the Monroe RLMA for the week of the twelfth of each month.

The Monroe RLMA claims were least affected by the 2005 hurricane season compared to other labor market areas. Initial Claims increased from 233 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to 1,371 claims for the same week in September. They returned to pre-storm levels in November 2005. Continued Weeks Claimed climbed from 2,450 claims for the week of the twelfth in August 2005 to a high of 7,785 claims for the same week in September 2005. In April 2006, they returned to pre-storm levels. The average for the last six months of 2006 was 1,832 claims for the week of the twelfth.

**Source:** The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reporting program receives statistical reports on all claims for unemployment insurance on a weekly basis. This data is released monthly in the "Workforce at a Glance Bulletin" available online. If you would like more information on unemployment insurance activity, please visit the Louisiana Department of Labor's website at [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net).



The employment and wage data are 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. The annual total wage figure and the average weekly wage used include all wages and salaries paid to covered employees by their employers, including bonuses, commissions, and cash value of all remuneration received in any medium other than cash. These wages include both taxable and non-taxable wages. The tables in this report will provide annual average employment, annual average units, and average weekly wage by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector. In this report, a unit refers to the establishment or economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity.

During the three-year period, 2004 thru 2006, average covered employment decreased by 361 or 0.3 percent (Table 9 Employment). Also, both the number of annual average units and the average weekly wage rose by 4.3 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively. Employment increased in 5 of the 11 parishes during the three-year period. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 13.2 percent in West Carroll parish, to the largest decrease of 6.4 percent in Jackson parish. The health care and social assistance sector had the largest annual average unit increase with a gain of 69 units, an 8.0 percent increase over the three-year period. The largest average weekly wage increase was in administrative and waste services with an increase of \$201, a 58.1 percent increase. For additional information for 2004, 2005, and 2006, go to [www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#EmployWageQtr).



Table 9 Units

## RLMA 8 Average Units

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change	
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006
<b>Total Average Units</b>	<b>7,841</b>	<b>7,820</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>8,053</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>8,156</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	305	302	-1.1%	299	-0.9%	296	-1.0%	-1.9%
Mining	43	40	-6.4%	40	0.0%	42	5.0%	5.0%
Utilities	95	93	-1.6%	92	-1.1%	90	-2.2%	-3.2%
Construction	734	713	-2.8%	726	1.8%	736	1.4%	3.2%
Manufacturing	262	253	-3.3%	257	1.7%	262	1.9%	3.7%
Wholesale Trade	394	401	1.8%	415	3.5%	414	-0.2%	3.2%
Retail Trade	1,244	1,228	-1.3%	1,225	-0.2%	1,243	1.5%	1.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	327	330	1.1%	344	4.2%	356	3.5%	7.9%
Information	135	133	-0.9%	135	1.3%	134	-0.7%	0.6%
Finance & Insurance	551	554	0.5%	598	8.0%	587	-1.8%	6.0%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	320	340	6.3%	348	2.4%	353	1.4%	3.9%
Professional & Technical Services	622	631	1.6%	648	2.7%	665	2.6%	5.3%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	29	27	-6.1%	28	3.7%	27	-3.6%	0.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	279	276	-1.2%	288	4.5%	304	5.6%	10.3%
Educational Services	61	62	1.6%	64	2.8%	65	1.6%	4.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	846	864	2.2%	918	6.2%	933	1.6%	8.0%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	83	89	7.3%	92	3.7%	96	4.3%	8.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	415	408	-1.6%	422	3.4%	437	3.6%	7.1%
Other Services, except Public Administration	684	673	-1.6%	688	2.3%	689	0.1%	2.4%
Public Administration	387	379	-2.1%	377	-0.5%	376	-0.3%	-0.8%

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

The number of annual average units for 2004 was 7,820 (Table 9 Units), down 0.3 percent compared to 7,841 in 2003. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,228) and the smallest number of annual average units was found in management of companies and enterprises (27).

The number of annual average units for 2005 was 8,053 (Table 9 Units), up 3.0 percent compared to 2004. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,225) and the smallest number of annual average units (28) was found in management of companies and enterprises.

The number of annual average units for 2006 was 8,156 (Table 9 Units), up 1.3 percent compared to 2005. The largest number of annual average units was found in retail trade (1,243) and the smallest number of annual average units (27) was found in the management of companies and enterprises sector.

Table 9 Wage - RLMA 8 Average Weekly Wage

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Percent Change 2003 to 2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2005 to 2006</u>	<u>Percent Change 2004 to 2006</u>
<b>Average Weekly Wage for RLMA 8</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$513</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>\$537</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>\$563</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	396	388	-1.9%	392	1.0%	438	11.7%	12.9%
Mining	733	798	8.9%	750	-6.1%	934	24.5%	17.0%
Utilities	746	824	10.4%	810	-1.7%	787	-2.8%	-4.5%
Construction	484	508	4.9%	550	8.2%	603	9.6%	18.7%
Manufacturing	754	774	2.7%	784	1.3%	824	5.1%	6.5%
Wholesale Trade	646	676	4.6%	697	3.2%	781	12.1%	15.6%
Retail Trade	354	363	2.8%	369	1.6%	387	4.9%	6.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	651	669	2.7%	662	-1.0%	669	1.1%	0.0%
Information	649	672	3.5%	686	2.1%	706	2.9%	5.0%
Finance & Insurance	597	615	2.9%	668	8.6%	690	3.3%	12.2%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	435	436	0.3%	449	2.9%	470	4.7%	7.7%
Professional & Technical Services	613	637	3.9%	647	1.5%	720	11.3%	13.0%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	968	1,078	11.4%	1,202	11.5%	1,255	4.4%	16.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	332	345	4.1%	433	25.4%	546	26.1%	58.1%
Educational Services	466	459	-1.5%	516	12.3%	542	5.0%	18.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	501	517	3.3%	536	3.7%	547	2.1%	5.8%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	266	269	1.0%	271	0.9%	267	-1.5%	-0.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	183	190	3.9%	197	3.7%	208	5.6%	9.5%
Other Services, except Public Administration	361	384	6.3%	387	0.9%	395	2.1%	2.9%
Public Administration	508	527	3.9%	562	6.6%	578	2.8%	9.7%

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Total wages for 2004 increased approximately \$33 million to register a gain of 1.1 percent from 2003. The average weekly wage for covered employment rose in 2004, with an average increase of \$13 over 2003. The average weekly wage was \$513 including government workers. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,078 in the management of companies and enterprises sector to a low of \$190 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 9 Wage. Jackson parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$557 while West Carroll parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$388.

Total wages for 2005 increased slightly over \$114 million to register a gain of 3.8 percent from 2004. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$537, which was an average increase of \$24 from 2004. The average weekly wage ranged from a high of \$1,202 in the management of companies and enterprises sector to a low of \$197 in the accommodations and food services sector. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 9 Wage. Jackson parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$592 while Franklin parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$396.

Total wages for 2006 increased slightly over \$166 million to register a gain of 5.4 percent from 2005. The average weekly wage for covered employment was \$563, which was an average increase of \$26 from 2005. The management of companies and enterprises sector (\$1,255) and the accommodations and food services sector (\$208) continued to have the highest and lowest weekly wage, respectively. Other average weekly wage by industry sector can be found in Table 9 Wage. Jackson parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$614 and Franklin parish had the lowest average weekly wage of \$423.

Table 9 Employment

## RLMA 8 Average Employment

Industry Sector (2-digit NAICS)	Percent Change			Percent Change			Percent Change		
	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	2005	2004 to 2005	2006	2005 to 2006	2004 to 2006	
<b>Total Average Employment</b>	<b>113,597</b>	<b>111,952</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>111,069</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>	<b>111,591</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	2,530	2,461	-2.7%	2,501	1.6%	2,303	-7.9%	-6.4%	
Mining	322	279	-13.3%	208	-25.4%	224	7.7%	-19.7%	
Utilities	923	912	-1.1%	917	0.5%	903	-1.5%	-1.0%	
Construction	6,138	5,721	-6.8%	5,620	-1.8%	5,895	4.9%	3.1%	
Manufacturing	12,939	12,308	-4.9%	12,203	-0.9%	11,677	-4.3%	-5.1%	
Wholesale Trade	3,789	3,809	0.5%	3,902	2.5%	3,912	0.3%	2.7%	
Retail Trade	14,328	14,321	0.0%	14,446	0.9%	14,672	1.6%	2.4%	
Transportation & Warehousing	3,309	2,855	-13.7%	3,029	6.1%	3,085	1.8%	8.0%	
Information	2,115	2,204	4.2%	2,124	-3.6%	2,124	0.0%	-3.6%	
Finance & Insurance	5,472	5,299	-3.2%	4,858	-8.3%	4,685	-3.6%	-11.6%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,253	1,324	5.7%	1,427	7.8%	1,541	8.0%	16.4%	
Professional & Technical Services	3,087	3,227	4.5%	3,162	-2.0%	3,251	2.8%	0.8%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	2,040	1,909	-6.5%	1,789	-6.3%	1,717	-4.0%	-10.0%	
Administrative & Waste Services	4,123	3,719	-9.8%	4,067	9.4%	4,392	8.0%	18.1%	
Educational Services	12,459	12,574	0.9%	11,780	-6.3%	11,584	-1.7%	-7.9%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	19,912	20,165	1.3%	20,618	2.2%	20,962	1.7%	4.0%	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	965	991	2.7%	985	-0.6%	1,050	6.6%	6.0%	
Accommodation & Food Services	8,007	8,090	1.0%	7,934	-1.9%	8,119	2.3%	0.4%	
Other Services, except Public Administration	3,086	3,318	7.5%	3,146	-5.2%	3,190	1.4%	-3.9%	
Public Administration	6,733	6,425	-4.6%	6,273	-2.4%	6,210	-1.0%	-3.3%	

Note: Columns may not add due to unclassified data

Data based on preliminary annual employment for 2006

Source: Louisiana Employment & Wages Annual Reports 2004 and 2005; [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net)

Average covered employment in 2004 totaled 111,952 in the Monroe RLMA (Table 9 Employment), a decrease of 1.4 percent when compared to 113,597 in 2003. Employment in 3 of the 11 parishes increased in 2004. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 1.3 percent in West Carroll parish, to the largest decrease of 7.7 percent in Morehouse parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Monroe RLMA with 20,165 employees, or 18.0 percent of total employment.

The 2004 annual average covered employment in government totaled 23,484, or 21.0 percent of total employment. Federal workers averaged 1,072 (1.0 percent); state workers averaged 5,783 (5.2 percent); and local government workers averaged 16,629 (14.9 percent), while the private sector made up 79.0 percent of employment.

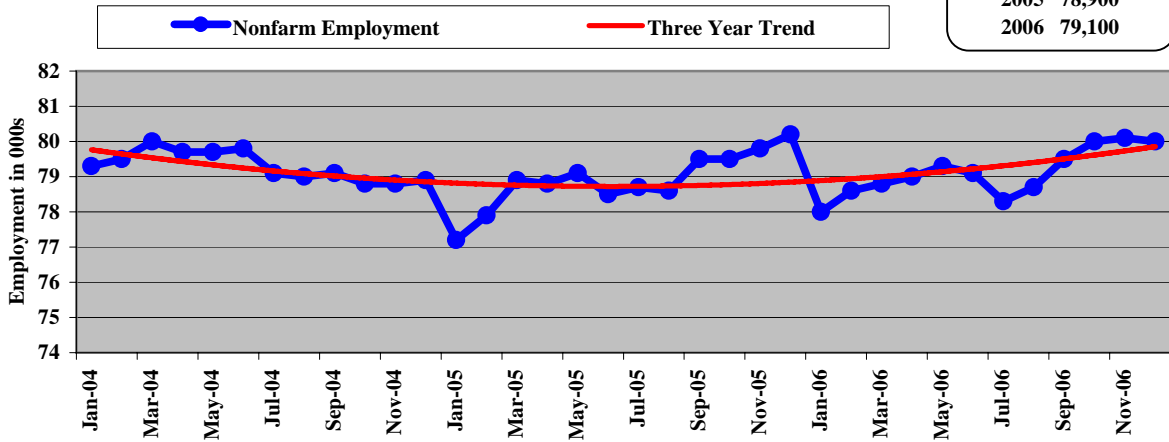
Average covered employment in 2005 totaled 111,069 (Table 9 Employment), a decrease of 0.8 percent when compared to 111,952 in 2004. Employment in 5 of the 11 parishes increased in 2005. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 4.0 percent in West Carroll parish, to the largest decrease of 6.2 percent in Tensas parish. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the Monroe RLMA with 20,618 employees, or 18.6 percent of total employment.

The 2005 annual average covered employment in government totaled 22,456, or 20.2 percent of total employment, which was slightly down from 2004. Federal workers averaged 1,046 (0.9 percent); state workers averaged 5,482 (4.9 percent); and local government workers averaged 15,928 (14.3 percent), while the private sector made up 79.8 percent of employment.

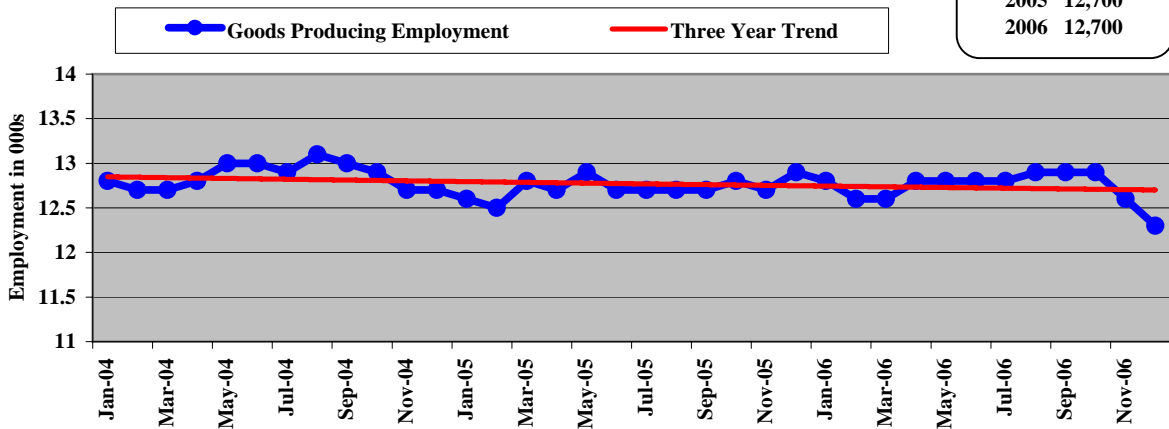
Average covered employment in 2006 totaled 111,591 (Table 9 Employment), an increase of 0.5 percent when compared to 111,069 in 2005. Employment in 6 of the 11 parishes increased in 2006. The percentage of change in employment ranged from the largest increase of 8.8 percent in East Carroll and West Carroll parishes, to the largest decrease of 3.4 percent in Union parish. Health care and social assistance continued to be the leading industry in the Monroe RLMA with 20,962 employees, or 18.8 percent of total employment.

The 2006 annual average covered employment in government totaled 22,273, or 20.0 percent of total employment, which was down slightly from 2005. Federal workers averaged 1,043 (0.9 percent); state workers averaged 5,301 (4.8 percent); and local government workers averaged 15,929 (14.3 percent), while the private sector made up 80.0 percent of employment.

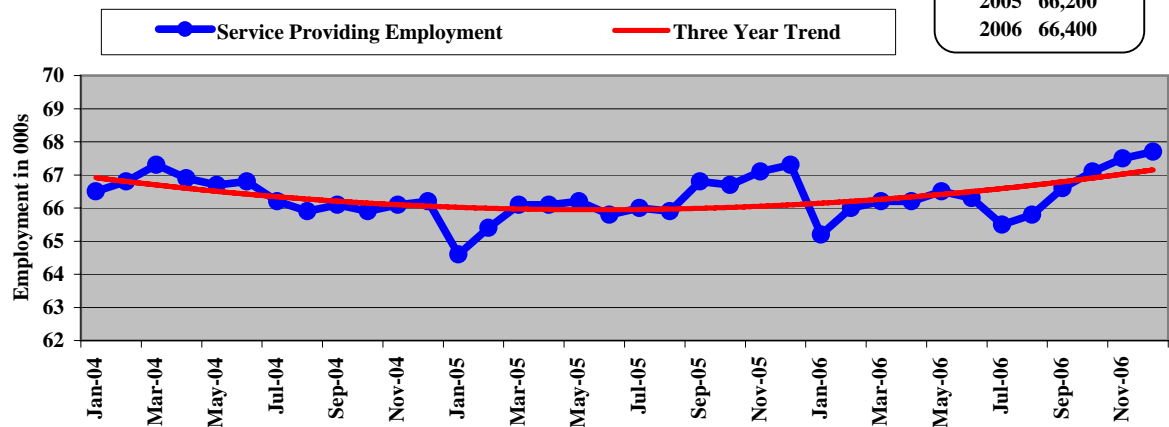
**Monroe MSA Nonfarm Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Monroe MSA Goods Producing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



**Monroe MSA Service Providing Employment  
2004 - 2006**



The Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is comprised of two parishes, Ouachita and Union. The MSA is dominated by service providing industries, which account for nearly 85% of the employment in the MSA. Jobs in the goods producing sector are concentrated in manufacturing, which provides close to 75% of all goods producing employment.

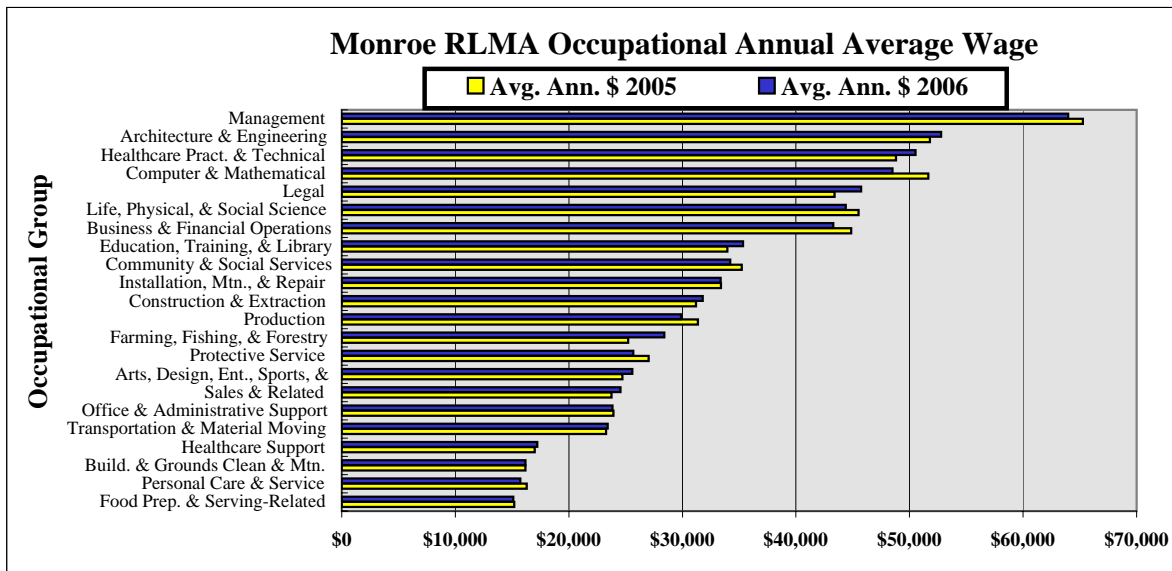
In 2004, the nonfarm employment in Monroe for January was estimated to be 79,300, compared to the December level of 78,900. The 2004 annual average was also 79,300, a decline of almost 900 jobs from the average seen in 2003. The goods producing average declined by 500, with a loss of 200 in manufacturing. The service-providing sector fell by 300 jobs. Professional and business services declined by 600, as a large layoff by State Farm started, this layoff ran through the beginning of 2005. Manufacturing, on average, lost 200 jobs compared to 2003.

In 2005, the average annual nonfarm employment was 78,900, reflecting a loss of 400 jobs compared to the 2004 average. However, during the January 2005 to December 2005 period, the area gained 3,000 jobs. Comparing December 2005 to December 2004 showed a gain in Monroe of 1,300 jobs, while a loss of 500 jobs occurred when compared to the December 2003 figure. The annual total government figure declined by 500 jobs compared to 2004, with local government falling by 300. Despite the loss of over 1,000 workers in the State Farm layoff, the initial projections from many in economic circles that the layoff would devastate the Monroe economy never came to pass.

In 2006, the average annual nonfarm employment was 79,100, a gain of 200 from the previous year. Between January and December 2006, nonfarm employment gained 2,000 jobs. Goods producing, whose annual average figure held steady when compared to 2005, lost 500 jobs over the year, as manufacturing lost 900 jobs from January to December. A significant portion of that figure comes from the closure of the Guide Corporation plant, which in total laid off over 800 employees over several months. Local economists in the area had predicted a substantial drop in employment as well as household income with that closing. However the area has shown the ability to recover from large scale layoffs, so the long term affects of such closings are difficult to estimate. Service providing average employment in 2006 was 200 higher than 2005's total with small gains in trade, transportation and utilities, leisure and hospitality, and educational and health care services.

The year 2007 will see large employers such as Accent Marketing trying to fill the void the previous layoffs have brought. Accent plans to employ over 500 people, and the area is seeing an influx of national retail chains and shopping developments. The area may have weathered the storm as it has several times before.

**Source:** The CES Current Employment Statistics program produces monthly and annual nonfarm employment estimates for the State and eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Data is based on a sample survey of employers and is benchmarked to the QCEW Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages data. Current nonfarm employment can be found on our website at the following link [http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads\\_LMI.asp#Bulletin](http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/Downloads_LMI.asp#Bulletin).



Occupational Group	Avg. Ann. \$ 2005	Avg. Ann. \$ 2006
Food Prep. & Serving-Related	\$15,176	15,108
Personal Care & Service	\$16,296	15,721
Build. & Grounds Clean & Mtn.	\$16,177	16,175
Healthcare Support	\$16,992	17,232
Transportation & Material Moving	\$23,267	23,415
Office & Administrative Support	\$23,913	23,844
Sales & Related	\$23,764	24,550
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports, & Media	\$24,724	25,588
Protective Service	\$27,021	25,682
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$25,217	28,406
Production	\$31,365	29,877
Construction & Extraction	\$31,185	31,792
Installation, Mtn., & Repair	\$33,394	33,365
Community & Social Services	\$35,217	34,224
Education, Training, & Library	\$33,953	35,351
Business & Financial Operations	\$44,869	43,292
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$45,500	44,398
Legal	\$43,405	45,747
Computer & Mathematical	\$51,648	48,494
Healthcare Pract. & Technical	\$48,820	50,536
Architecture & Engineering	\$51,784	52,770
Management	\$65,255	63,980

The Monroe RLMA has the second largest number of employees in the Farming, Fishing, and Forestry occupational group. Reported wages for this group in 2006, at \$28,406, were higher than the National average and grew by \$3,189 over the 2005 wage level. Wages for the Legal occupational group increased by \$2,342 over the year while the Healthcare Practitioners and Technical occupational group grew by \$1,716. The loss of higher paying jobs in both the Computer and Mathematical, and Business and Financial Operations occupational groups contributed to over the year declines of \$3,154 and \$1,577, respectively. The highest paid occupation at the regional level was Pediatricians, General at \$189,464, while the lowest paid occupation was Amusement and Recreation Attendants at \$13,159. For more detailed information, please visit [www.LAWORKS.net](http://www.LAWORKS.net), choose Labor Market Information, then 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.

Regional Labor Market Area 8

**Table JVS 17**  
**By Occupational Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	3	65	20	0.2%	5.5%	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	5	11	23	0.7%	1.5%	2.7%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	157	18	6	4.0%	0.5%	0.2%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	118	105	10	4.1%	4.2%	0.4%
Community and Social Services Occupations	5	7	0	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	0	5	1	0.0%	0.4%	0.1%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	164	159	158	3.3%	3.2%	3.3%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	32	94	49	0.4%	1.1%	0.6%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0	29	0	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	270	116	8	3.0%	1.2%	0.1%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	300	257	568	3.9%	3.3%	6.7%
Healthcare Support Occupations	138	117	189	3.3%	3.1%	4.7%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	249	247	354	4.7%	4.5%	6.3%
Legal Occupations	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	39	0	1	10.3%	0.0%	0.3%
Management Occupations	96	136	1	1.5%	2.3%	0.0%
Military	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<i>Non-Classifiable Occupations</i>	26	8	1	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	184	236	174	0.9%	1.2%	0.9%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	298	143	387	9.6%	4.3%	13.7%
Production Occupations	370	63	232	4.0%	0.7%	2.7%
Protective Service Occupations	34	13	28	1.1%	0.4%	0.8%
Sales and Related Occupations	242	148	107	2.2%	1.4%	1.0%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	304	204	60	3.5%	2.5%	0.7%
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>2,938</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006; [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).



Regional Labor Market Area 8

**Table JVS 18**  
**By Industry Group**

	<u>Number of Job Vacancies</u>			<u>Job Vacancy Rate (Percent)</u>		
	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>2nd</u>
	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004*</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Construction	235	136	144	3.9%	2.4%	2.4%
Education & Health Services	796	627	555	2.4%	1.9%	1.7%
Financial Activities	206	188	139	3.0%	3.0%	2.2%
Information	0	0	29	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	426	50	47	4.7%	0.5%	0.5%
Manufacturing	126	92	171	1.0%	0.7%	1.5%
Natural Resources & Mining	0	29	0	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%
Other Services	593	245	563	18.6%	7.7%	17.5%
Professional & Business Services	237	286	112	2.6%	3.2%	1.2%
Public Administration	*	12	2	*	0.2%	0.0%
Trade, Transportaion & Utilities	415	521	1,176	1.8%	2.3%	5.2%
Unclassified	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total for Each Year</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>2,938</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

\*Second quarter 2004 Job Vacancy Survey did not include federal, state, or local government entities in the sample.

NA: Not Available

Note: Columns may not add due to rounding

Source: Job Vacancy Survey Reports, Second Quarter, 2004, 2005, 2006

[www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp)

**Regional Labor Market Area 8**

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. These results assist guidance counselors, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

There were 3,034 job vacancies in second quarter 2004 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.8 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were nearly three vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (796) was found in the industry group of education and health services (Table JVS 18), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in production with 370 (Table JVS 17). Approximately 70 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Monroe regional employers were seeking experienced workers in roughly 80 percent of the vacancies. Slightly over 40 percent of all job vacancies paid wages of \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were machinists; personal and home care aides; truck drivers, heavy or tractor trailer; bus and truck mechanics; and registered nurses. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was that they were unable to find qualified applicants.

In comparison, there were 2,184 job vacancies in the second quarter 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 2.0 percent for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were two vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (627) was found in the industry group of education and health services (Table JVS 18), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in healthcare practitioners and technical with 257 (Table JVS 17). Three fifths (60 percent) of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Monroe regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in slightly less than 70 percent of the job vacancies. Almost 50 percent of the job vacancies paid \$7.00 or less. The top five job openings were receptionists and information clerks; personal financial advisors; cashiers; automotive body and related repairers; and maintenance and repair workers, general. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was not enough applicants.

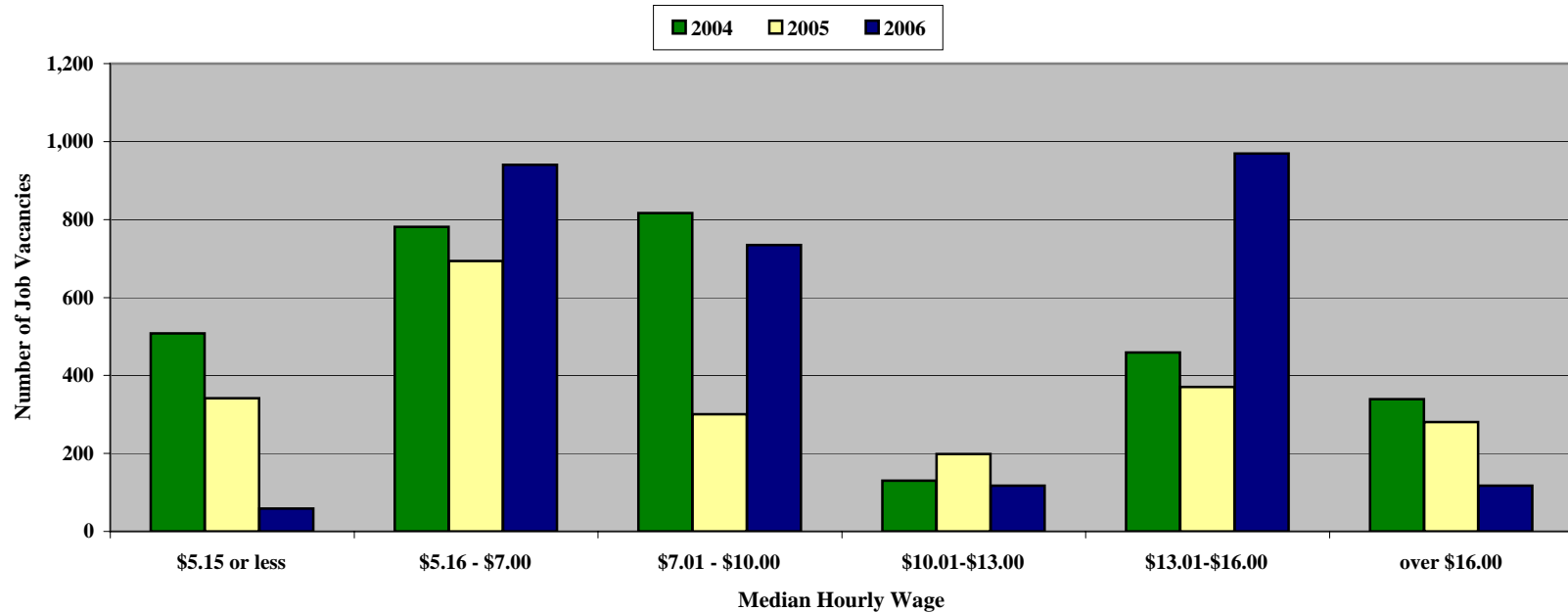
In the first post-hurricane results (second quarter 2006), there were 2,938 job vacancies reported resulting in a 2.6 percent vacancy rate for the industry group. This means that for every 100 jobs, there were approximately two and one-half vacant positions. The largest number of job vacancies (1,176) was in trade, transportation and utilities (Table JVS 18), while the largest number of job vacancies by occupational group was in healthcare practitioner and technical with 568 (Table JVS 17). Less than 60 percent of the job vacancies required a high school diploma or less, while Monroe regional employers were looking for some type of work experience in less than 50 percent of the job vacancies. Slightly over 30 percent of the job vacancies paid \$5.16-\$7.00. The top five job openings were licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses; personal care and service workers, all other; nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants; mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines; and helpers, production workers. The number one difficulty reported by employers when trying to fill the vacant position was finding people who wanted to work. There were not enough applications being submitted.

Regional Labor Market Area 8

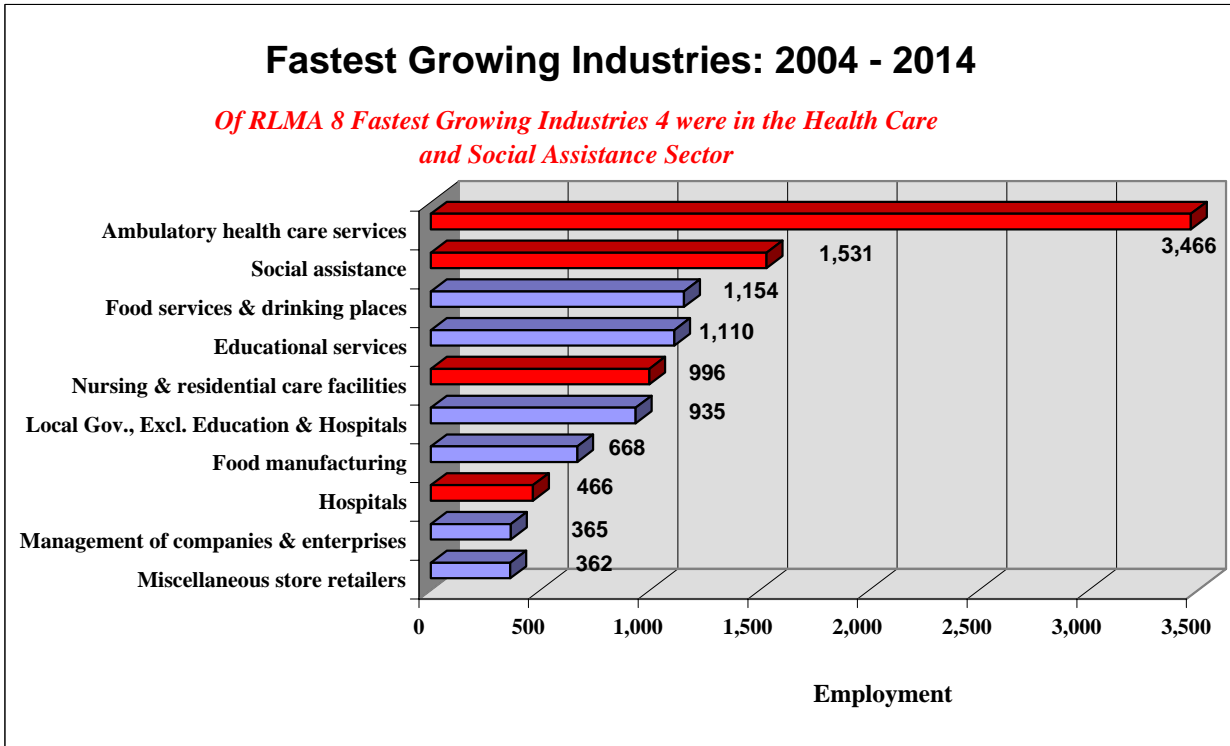
The number of job vacancies reported declined by 28 percent from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2005. However, the number of job vacancies reported for second quarter 2006 increased 35 percent from second quarter 2005. This increase could be attributed somewhat to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita but not to the extent as the southern regions of the state. The largest number of vacancies for 2004 and 2005 was in the industry group education and health services while the largest number of vacancies was in trade, transportation, and utilities in 2006. The occupational group with the largest number of vacancies was healthcare practitioners and technical in 2005 and 2006. The greatest change in hourly median wage can be seen in Figure JVS 9 when the range of \$13.01 to \$16.00 amounted to 33 percent of the job vacancies. For the complete results of these survey reports, go to [www.LAWORKS.net/qm\\_JVS.asp](http://www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp).

RLMA 8 Median Hourly Wage, 2nd Quarter  
2004, 2005, and 2006 Comparison  
Job Vacancy Survey Results

Figure: JVS 9



*Regional Labor Market Area 8 : Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, & West Carroll*



Industry employment in RLMA 8 was projected to grow by 8.1 percent or 9,974 workers by 2014.

The industry adding the most workers was ambulatory health care services. Some of the industries included in this sector are workers in physicians, dental, and chiropractor offices. Outpatient care centers, medical laboratories and home health care services are also included in this group. This sector is projected to continually increase to take care of the aging population.

Social assistance includes day care centers, child and youth services as well as services for the elderly and disabled. In the coming years this industry will grow as the population ages.

Food services and drinking places is usually in the fastest growing industries across the state as well as nationally. Growth in this industry serves as a stepping stone for young people entering our labor force to obtain their first job. The on-the-job-training educational requirements help jump start individuals into the world of work.

Educational services includes all schools from elementary to universities; growth in this industry ties in with the day care and youth programs projected to grow in the social assistance industry group.

Projected growth in the hospitals and nursing and residential care facilities, along with social assistance and ambulatory health care services, account for the fastest growing industry sector in region 8. The medical fields are projected to need the most workers of all of the major industries in the Monroe region.

Local government is responsible for providing police protection, administering community and housing programs, and economic programs to attract new businesses and population to the region. They have a direct impact on keeping the economy viable and will need almost 1,000 additional workers by 2014.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

Regional Labor Market Area 8 : Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, & West Carroll

Occupational Title	10 Year % Job Growth	Avg Annual Regional Wage	Avg Annual Statewide Wage	Minimum Educational Requirements
Financial Analysts	100.0%	\$45,981	\$59,410	Bachelor's degree
Home Health Aides	74.7%	\$15,414	\$16,380	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	68.8%	\$19,718	\$19,370	Bachelor's degree
Dental Assistants	66.7%	\$22,179	\$24,640	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
Physician Assistants	66.7%	\$51,196	\$50,840	Bachelor's degree
Medical Assistants	63.6%	\$21,941	\$20,940	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
Motion Picture	60.0%	\$15,569	\$22,290	Moderate-term Tng. & Exp.
Occupational Therapists	58.3%	\$72,203	\$63,370	Bachelor's degree
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	55.6%	\$54,811	\$51,140	Associate degree
Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	50.0%	\$51,517	\$48,380	Bachelor's degree

*Of the occupations with the most annual openings three required post secondary education.*

Occupational Title	Annual Total Openings	Avg Annual Regional Wage	Avg Annual Statewide Wage	Minimum Educational Requirements
Cashiers	200	\$14,488	\$14,460	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Retail Salespersons	170	\$20,855	\$20,950	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Registered Nurses	160	\$49,577	\$50,950	Associate degree
Waiters and Waitresses	100	\$14,432	\$14,750	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Movers, Hand	90	\$18,724	\$19,490	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Home Health Aides	90	\$15,414	\$16,380	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	80	\$14,383	\$13,780	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
Food Preparation Workers	80	\$13,959	\$14,110	Short-term Tng. & Exp.
General and Operations Managers	70	\$74,394	\$79,220	Wk Exp.+ Bachelor's or higher
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	70	\$35,944	\$37,910	Bachelor's degree

The Monroe region will need skilled workers with college and moderate experience and training to meet the needs of its growing employers. The tables above reflect occupations projected to add the most jobs by percent growth and by numerical demand.

Teachers and home health aides are on both lists marking the critical need for workers in these fields for Region 8.

The first table of occupational demand by percent growth clearly defines the importance of a well educated labor force for the future. Six of the top ten occupations are in the medical field. An associate or bachelor's degree will be required for six of the ten occupations listed.

Short-term training and experience are the minimum educational requirements for seven out of the ten fastest growing occupation by numerical growth. These occupations are important in that they serve as an entry point into the labor market for individuals who need a job quickly and who don't have the educational requirements for other jobs. Workers in these occupations gain the experience of working as a team and learn the soft skills that they will use the rest of their lives.

Financial Analysts occupation was at the top of the list by percent growth. Persons in this occupational field help individuals plan for their financial retirements, prepare business forecasts, and interpret investment programs for clients.

General and operations managers are also in top demand. These occupations can be found in almost every industry sector. Workers can work their way up into managerial positions or with a bachelor's degree be hired at this level by some employers.

The projections employment data for the state and each regional labor market area is on the Louisiana Dept. of Labor's web site at [http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_employmentprojections.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_employmentprojections.asp).

# 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 2003 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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

## **Glossary of Workforce Information Terms - continued**

**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.

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

**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.

**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.

**Louisiana Occupational Information System (LOIS)** – A comprehensive labor market information delivery system developed by LDOL 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.



# Glossary of Workforce Information Terms - continued

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)** - 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.

**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.

**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.

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

## **Glossary of Workforce Information Terms - continued**

**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).



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