# 04/2013

# Manpower Employment Outlook Survey Global

A Manpower Research Report





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# Global Employment Outlook

### The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is ManpowerGroup's quarterly index of employer hiring confidence.

Over 65,000 hiring managers across 42 countries and territories were recently asked, "How do you anticipate total employment at your location to change in the three months to the end of December 2013 as compared to the current guarter?"

Based on employer responses, general labor market conditions are expected to remain mostly positive with employers in 29 of the 42 countries and territories reporting that they plan to boost payrolls by varying degrees during the fourth quarter. This compares with positive hiring intentions reported by employers in 32 of 42 countries and territories during the July-September time frame. Worldwide, hiring expectations are strongest in India, Taiwan, Panama, Singapore and Brazil. The weakest opportunities for job seekers are expected in Italy, Spain and Finland.

When compared with forecasts from the prior quarter and last year at this time, the fourth-quarter research reveals few signs that global hiring momentum will improve by any notable degree. In fact, hiring prospects are stronger in only 14 of 42 countries and territories when compared with the prior quarter, weaken in 19 and are unchanged in nine. Outlooks are stronger in 16 countries and territories when compared to Quarter 4 2012, but hiring plans actually weaken in 25 and are unchanged in one. Overall, it appears that employers are carefully considering their options, and many are evidently prepared to adopt a wait-and-see attitude toward further hiring until they see clearer resolution to ongoing uncertainty in the marketplace.

One notable exception is in India where fourth-quarter hiring plans are the most optimistic across the globe. In fact, India's hiring pace is expected to rebound decisively following four consecutive quarters of relatively lackluster forecasts. Elsewhere in the Asia

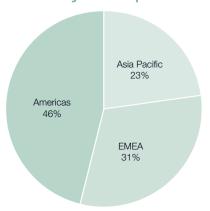
Pacific region, payrolls are expected to grow in each of the eight countries and territories. Net Employment Outlooks strengthen in three countries and territories in quarter-over-quarter comparisons, and weaken in two. Year-over-year, hiring plans improve in five, but weaken in three. The region's weakest Outlook for the last three months of the year is reported by Australian employers.

In the Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) region, overall hiring intentions are just nominally weaker than in the prior quarter. Employers forecast jobs gains in 11 of 24 countries in the fourth quarter, compared to 14 positive forecasts reported three months ago. Payroll cuts, on the other hand, are expected in 10 countries—the same as in Quarter 3 2013. Hiring plans improve in eight countries when compared to the prior quarter but weaken in 13. Year-over-year, the forecasts are stronger in eight countries but weaker in 15. Turkish employers report the region's strongest hiring plans, while the weakest Outlook is reported in Italy. Employers remain cautiously optimistic in the United Kingdom with Outlooks improving in most industry sectors in comparison to both the prior quarter and last year at this time.

Hiring plans in the Americas remain positive in each of the 10 countries participating in the research. When compared with the previous quarter, forecasts improve in three countries, weaken in four and are unchanged in three. The forecasts trend marginally weaker in a year-over-year comparison, with Outlooks also improving in three countries but declining in seven. Employers in Panama forecast the region's strongest fourth-quarter hiring pace while those in Argentina report the least optimistic hiring plans. Following four years of steady improvement, the Outlook in the United States is the most optimistic reported since Quarter 2 2008. The hiring pace in Brazil is expected to remain respectable through the end of the year despite a considerable decline in the Outlook year-over-year. Meanwhile, hiring activity is expected to continue at a steady pace in both Mexico and Canada.

 $^{\star}$  Commentary is based on seasonally adjusted data where available.

# Survey Respondents by Region



For the Quarter 4 2013 research ManpowerGroup surveyed more than 65,000 human resources directors and senior hiring managers from public and private organizations worldwide: 46% of respondents come from 10 countries in the Americas; 23% from eight countries and territories across Asia Pacific; and 31% from 24 countries in EMEA.

# Manpower Employment Outlook Survey Global

	Net Employment Outlook			Qtr on Qtr Change	Yr on Yr Change
	Quarter 4 2012	Quarter 3 2013	Quarter 4 2013	Q3 2013 to Q4 2013	Q4 2012 to Q4 2013
	%	%	%		
Americas					<u>'</u>
Argentina	3 (6)1	7 (9)1	6 (9) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (O) <sup>1</sup>	3 (3) <sup>1</sup>
Brazil	24 (28) <sup>1</sup>	28 (23) <sup>1</sup>	13 (19) <sup>1</sup>	-15 (-4) <sup>1</sup>	-11 (-9) <sup>1</sup>
Canada	9 (11) <sup>1</sup>	15 (10) <sup>1</sup>	8 (10) <sup>1</sup>	-7 (0) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (-1) <sup>1</sup>
Colombia	19 (17) <sup>1</sup>	16 (15) <sup>1</sup>	15 (13) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (-2) <sup>1</sup>	-4 (-4) <sup>1</sup>
Costa Rica	18 (15) <sup>1</sup>	5 (9) <sup>1</sup>	13 (10) <sup>1</sup>	8 (1) <sup>1</sup>	-5 (-5) <sup>1</sup>
Guatemala	14 (14) <sup>1</sup>	9 (11) <sup>1</sup>	18 (18) <sup>1</sup>	9 (7)1	4 (4)1
Mexico	17 (18)¹	19 (18) <sup>1</sup>	14 (15) <sup>1</sup>	-5 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-3) <sup>1</sup>
Panama	26	24	24	0	-2
Peru	23 (22)1	23 (24)1	17 (16) <sup>1</sup>	-6 (-8) <sup>1</sup>	-6 (-6) <sup>1</sup>
United States	8 (11) <sup>1</sup>	16 (12) <sup>1</sup>	10 (13) <sup>1</sup>	-6 (1) <sup>1</sup>	2 (2)1
Asia Pacific					
Australia	9 (9)1	5 (6) <sup>1</sup>	3 (3) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-6 (-6) <sup>1</sup>
China	16 (14) <sup>1</sup>	12 (13) <sup>1</sup>	14 (13) <sup>1</sup>	2 (0)1	-2 (-1) <sup>1</sup>
Hong Kong	12 (11) <sup>1</sup>	14 (13) <sup>1</sup>	15 (14) <sup>1</sup>	1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	3 (3) <sup>1</sup>
India	18 (19) <sup>1</sup>	26 (25) <sup>1</sup>	40 (41) <sup>1</sup>	14 (16) <sup>1</sup>	22 (22)1
Japan	7 (11) <sup>1</sup>	14 (15) <sup>1</sup>	12 (15) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (0) <sup>1</sup>	5 (4) <sup>1</sup>
New Zealand	19 (18) <sup>1</sup>	21 (22) <sup>1</sup>	18 (17) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-5) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (-1) <sup>1</sup>
Singapore	19 (18) <sup>1</sup>	15 (14) <sup>1</sup>	21 (20) <sup>1</sup>	6 (6) <sup>1</sup>	2 (2)1
Taiwan	34 (33) <sup>1</sup>	40 (35) <sup>1</sup>	37 (35) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (0) <sup>1</sup>	3 (2)1
	,	, ,	, ,		,
EMEA*					
Austria	4 (4)1	6 (3) <sup>1</sup>	1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	-5 (-2) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-3) <sup>1</sup>
Belgium	1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	2 (2)1	-2 (-2) <sup>1</sup>
Bulgaria	5	14	4	-10	-1
Czech Republic	O (-1) <sup>1</sup>	2 (-1)1	O (-1) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (0) <sup>1</sup>	O (O) <sup>1</sup>
Finland	-7	5	-6	-11	1
France	2 (1) <sup>1</sup>	1 (-1)1	0 (0)1	-1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-1) <sup>1</sup>
Germany	6 (5) <sup>1</sup>	5 (4) <sup>1</sup>	3 (2)1		
,			, ,	-2 (-2) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-3) <sup>1</sup>
Greece	-16 (-13) <sup>1</sup>	3 (-3)1	-4 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	-7 (2) <sup>1</sup>	12 (12)1
Hungary	0 (-1)1	0 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-4) <sup>1</sup>	-3 (-3)1	-3 (-3) <sup>1</sup>
Ireland	-7 (-7) <sup>1</sup>	-5 (-7) <sup>1</sup>	-4 (-4)1	1 (3)1	3 (3)1
Israel	10	10	6	-4	-4
Italy	-11 (-8) <sup>1</sup>	-7 (-10) <sup>1</sup>	-17 (-13) <sup>1</sup>	-10 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-6 (-5) <sup>1</sup>
Netherlands	-1 (-2) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	0 (0)1	-1 (-1) <sup>1</sup>
Norway	8 (7)1	6 (4) <sup>1</sup>	4 (3)1	-2 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	-4 (-4) <sup>1</sup>
Poland	-2 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	7 (2)1	3 (4)1	-4 (2) <sup>1</sup>	5 (5)1
Romania	13 (12)1	10 (5)1	0 (0)1	-10 (-5) <sup>1</sup>	-13 (-12) <sup>1</sup>
Slovakia	-2	1	1	0	3
Slovenia	3	7	0	-7 C (4)1	-3
South Africa	-1 (-1) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	5 (5)1	6 (4)1	6 (6)1
Spain	-8 (-8) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-5)1	-7 (-7) <sup>1</sup>	-5 (-2) <sup>1</sup>	1 (1)1
Sweden	3 (3)1	1 (-1)1	1 (2)1	0 (3)1	-2 (-1)1
Switzerland	5 (4) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (1) <sup>1</sup>	-2 (-3) <sup>1</sup>	-1 (-4) <sup>1</sup>	-7 (-7) <sup>1</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>EMEA - Europe, Middle East and Africa.

21

4 (3)1

18

-6

1 (1)<sup>1</sup>

-3

3 (3)1

24

 $6(5)^{1}$ 

Turkey

UK

<sup>1.</sup> Number in parentheses is the Net Employment Outlook when adjusted to remove the impact of seasonal variations in hiring activity. Please note that this data is not available for all countries as a minimum of 17 quarters worth of data is required.

# Quarter-on-Quarter Movement

#### STRONGER

1	40 -1-
India	16 pts.
Guatemala	7 pts.
Singapore	6 pts.
South Africa	4 pts.
Ireland	3 pts.
Sweden	3 pts.
Belgium	2 pts.
Greece	2 pts.
Poland	2 pts.
Costa Rica	1 pt.
France	1 pt.
Hong Kong	1 pt.
United Kingdom	1 pt.
United States	1 pt.
Argentina	0 pts.
Canada	0 pts.
China	0 pts.
Czech Republic	0 pts.
Japan	0 pts.
Netherlands	0 pts.
Panama	0 pts.*
Slovakia	0 pts.*
Taiwan	0 pts.
Norway	-1 pt.
Austria	-2 pts.
Colombia	-2 pts.
Germany	-2 pts.
Spain	-2 pts.
Australia	-3 pts.
Hungary	-3 pts.
Italy	-3 pts.
Mexico	-3 pts.
Brazil	-4 pts.
Israel	-4 pts.*
Switzerland	-4 pts.
New Zealand	-5 pts.
Romania	-5 pts.
Turkey	-6 pts.*
Slovenia	-7 pts.*
Peru	-7 pts.
Bulgaria	-10 pts.*
Finland	-10 pts.
FILIIdi IU	-11 pts.

**WEAKER** 

42 Countries and Territories

# Year-on-Year Movement

#### STRONGER

India	22 pts.
Greece	12 pts.
South Africa	6 pts.
Poland	5 pts.
Guatemala	4 pts.
Japan	4 pts.
Argentina	3 pts.
Hong Kong	3 pts.
Ireland	3 pts.
Slovakia	3 pts.*
United Kingdom	3 pts.
Singapore	2 pts.
Taiwan	2 pts.
United States	2 pts.
Finland	1 pt.*
Spain	1 pt.
Czech Republic	0 pts.
Bulgaria	-1 pt.*
Canada	-1 pt.
China	-1 pt.
France	-1 pt.
Netherlands	-1 pt.
New Zealand	-1 pt.
Sweden	-1 pt.
Belgium	-2 pts.
Panama	-2 pts.*
Austria	-3 pts.
Germany	-3 pts.
Hungary	-3 pts.
Mexico	-3 pts.
Slovenia	-3 pts.*
Turkey	-3 pts.*
Colombia	-4 pts.
Israel	-4 pts.*
Norway	-4 pts.
Costa Rica	-5 pts.
Italy	-5 pts.
Australia	-6 pts.
Peru	-6 pts.
Switzerland	-7 pts.
Brazil	-9 pts.
Romania	-12 pts.

**WEAKER** 

42 Countries and Territories

\*Indicates unadjusted data.

# International Comparisons - Americas

Nearly 30,000 employers from 10 countries in North, Central and South America took part in the latest ManpowerGroup research to gauge expected hiring activity through the end of the calendar year.

Outlooks remain positive throughout the region, although the pace of hiring is expected to slow in four countries and strengthen in only three when compared to the prior quarter's forecast. In a year-over-year comparison, hiring plans strengthen in three countries but weaken in the remaining seven. Job prospects are strongest in Panama, Brazil and Guatemala, and—as in the previous quarter—weakest in Argentina, Canada and Costa Rica.

The hiring pace in Panama is expected to remain active in the October-December time frame with solid Outlooks reported in each of the country's industry sectors. Despite the end of major work on the expansion of the Panama Canal, much still remains to complete the project. This, combined with ongoing construction of other infrastructure and hospitality projects, continues to generate demand for a variety of skills.

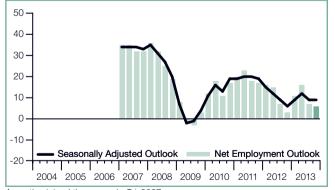
Brazil's Outlook remains stronger than in most countries participating in the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, and employers continue to anticipate solid fourth-quarter payroll growth in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate and the Services sectors. But clearly

demand for workers is decreasing as Outlooks weaken across most industry sectors and regions in both quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year comparisons.

Opportunities for job seekers continue to expand in the United States. Positive forecasts are reported in each of the country's industry sectors and regions, and the Outlook now stands at its strongest level since Quarter 2 2008. Hiring plans are strongest among employers in the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector. Hiring plans in Mexico decline slightly from both the prior quarter and a year ago. However, Outlooks remain positive in each of the country's industry sectors and regions. Hiring plans are particularly upbeat in the Manufacturing and Services sectors where approximately a quarter of all employers surveyed said they intended to add to their payrolls in the fourth quarter.

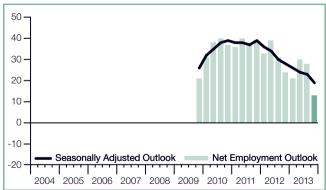
Optimism remains measured among Canadian employers; Outlooks are positive in all industry sectors and regions, but forecasts weaken by varying degrees in six of 10 sectors and three of four regions year-over-year. Construction sector employers report the strongest fourth-quarter hiring intentions with over one in four planning to add to their payrolls in the last three months of the year. In Argentina, meanwhile, a high inflation rate is causing a corresponding rise in wages, and employers are expecting only modest jobs growth in the fourth quarter.

#### Argentina



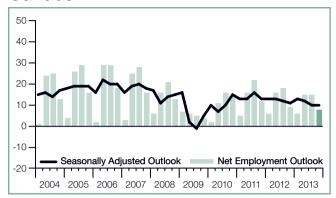
Argentina joined the survey in Q1 2007.

#### Brazil

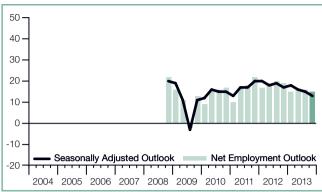


Brazil joined the survey in Q4 2009.

#### Canada

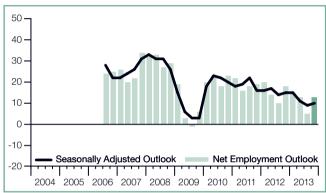


#### Colombia



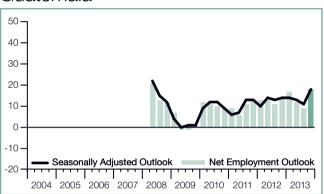
Colombia joined the survey in Q4 2008.

#### Costa Rica



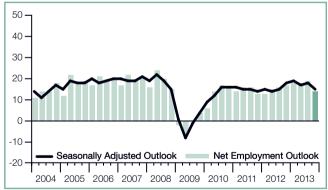
Costa Rica joined the survey in Q3 2006.

#### Guatemala



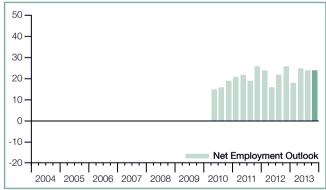
Guatemala joined the survey in Q2 2008.

#### Mexico



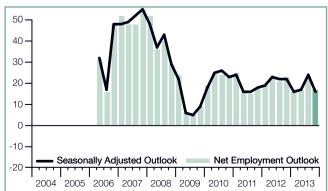
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Panama



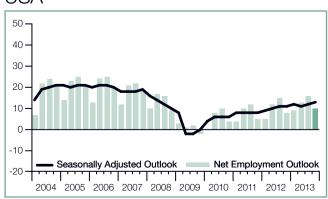
Panama joined the survey in Q2 2010.

#### Peru



Peru joined the survey in Q2 2006.

#### **USA**



No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

# International Comparisons - Asia Pacific

ManpowerGroup interviewed over 15,000 employers from eight countries and territories to measure fourth-quarter hiring intentions in the Asia Pacific region. Positive forecasts are reported throughout the region, with hiring plans growing stronger in three countries quarter-over-quarter but declining in two. In a year-over-year comparison, Outlooks improve in five countries and territories but weaken in the remaining three. The most optimistic Net Employment Outlooks are reported in India, Taiwan and Singapore. Meanwhile, the Outlook in Australia continues to trend softer, declining to its weakest level in more than four years.

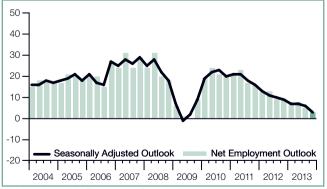
India's Net Employment Outlook rebounds dramatically from the July-September time frame, with employers reporting considerably stronger confidence across all regions and nearly all industry sectors in comparison to both Quarter 3 2013 and Quarter 4 2012 levels. Job seekers are likely to benefit from a surge in demand for talent among firms in IT/ITeS, banking and construction. Furthermore, despite the re-emergence of robust growth in India's established industrialized areas, jobs growth is expected to be even stronger in the less industrialized sites of India's North region—including the states of Jharkand and Bihar. Still, employability skills remain a challenge for a number of Indian hiring managers. Many acknowledge that there is an abundance of business and engineering graduates, but that too many of them lack the soft skills that are increasingly necessary as India becomes even more interconnected to the global marketplace.

Opportunities for job seekers continue to be bright in Taiwan. Employers are exceedingly optimistic across all industry sectors. Outlooks are positive and improve in five of six industry sectors year-over-year with hiring opportunities growing considerably in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate and the Mining & Construction sectors compared to last year at this time. Hiring intentions also remain positive in Japan where Outlooks improve by varying degrees in all industry sectors compared to year-ago levels.

In mainland China, Outlooks remain positive in all industry sectors and regions. However, employer hiring plans continue to decline in year-over-year comparisons across most sectors and regions. The most noteworthy declines in employer confidence are reported in the Mining & Construction, Services, and the Transportation & Utilities industry sectors—downturns which might be partly explained by the government's stated intention to shift from government-backed investment projects to a more consumer-driven economy.

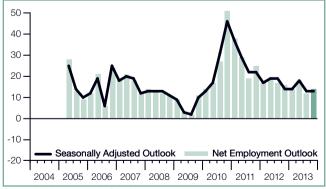
Employers in Australia are even less optimistic and for the sixth consecutive quarter report the region's weakest hiring plans. Much of this uncertainty stems from the sharp, ongoing decline of the country's mining industry, as well as associated industries such as construction and transportation.

#### Australia



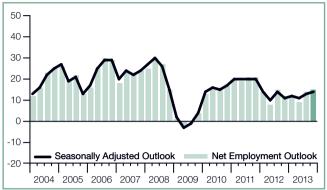
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### China



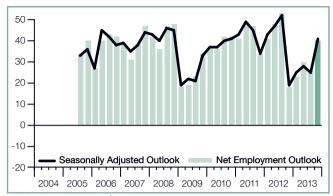
China joined the survey in Q2 2005.

#### Hong Kong



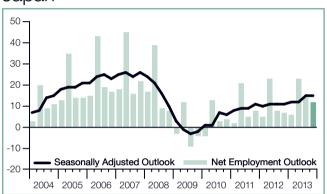
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### India

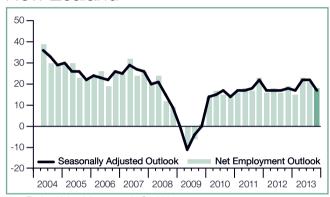


India joined the survey in Q3 2005.

#### Japan

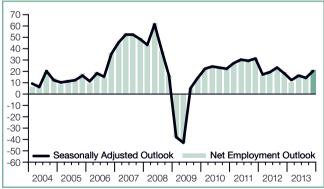


New Zealand

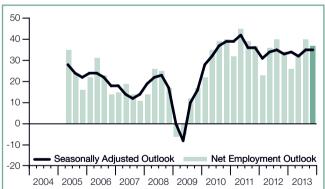


New Zealand joined the survey in Q2 2004. No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

## Singapore



#### Taiwan



Taiwan joined the survey in Q2 2005.

# International Comparisons - EMEA

ManpowerGroup interviewed more than 20,000 employers across 24 countries in the Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) region to measure fourth-quarter hiring plans. Throughout the region the hiring pace is expected to be mixed. Positive hiring intentions are reported in 11 countries for the October-December time frame, negative hiring intentions are reported in 10 countries. When compared with the previous quarter, hiring plans improve in only eight countries and weaken in 13. In a year-over-year comparison, the decline in employer sentiment is even more pronounced; Outlooks weaken in 15 countries and improve in only eight. Jobs growth is expected to be strongest in Turkey, Israel and the United Kingdom and weakest in Italy, Spain and Finland.

Employers in Turkey continue to report the most upbeat hiring plans in the region. And despite the country's Outlook softening in both quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year comparisons, forecasts in all industry sectors and regions remain positive, with steady payroll gains expected in the country's Manufacturing, Pharmaceutical and Wholesale & Retail Trade sectors.

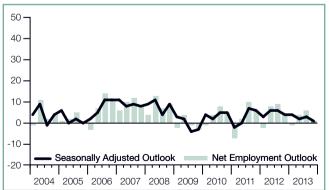
Elsewhere in the region, hiring plans are decidedly more uncertain. Opportunities for job seekers are expected to remain flat in France. Unemployment is the highest since 1999 and negative Outlooks are reported by employers in six of the country's 10 industry sectors. Additionally, the forecast in the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector sinks to its weakest level in more than four years

despite an unexpected uptick in consumer spending. A notable exception to this subdued hiring activity is seen in the Finance & Business Services sector where hiring plans climb to the strongest level in over two years.

German employers post their weakest fourth-quarter forecast since 2009. However, the country's unemployment rate is the second lowest in the European Union and the vast majority of employers say they plan to keep their current workforces intact through the next three months. Opportunities for job seekers remain favorable in the Finance & Business Services sector, but hiring activity in the country's Manufacturing sector is expected to remain relatively soft. Meanwhile, the Outlook in Switzerland has again turned negative and matches the least optimistic forecast ever reported by Swiss employers. Dutch employers report a negative forecast for the sixth consecutive quarter, despite a cautiously optimistic Outlook reported by Construction sector employers.

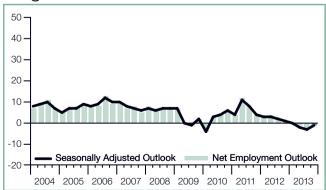
Employers in the United Kingdom are evidently responding to encouraging signs in the marketplace and continue to report cautiously optimistic hiring plans. Job seekers can expect to benefit from steady gains in the Finance & Business Services sector. And employers in two regions are anticipating noteworthy payroll gains through the end of the year: the Outlook in the East region is the strongest reported in nine years, while the forecast in the North West region is the strongest in over six years.

#### Austria



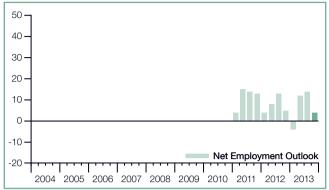
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero

#### Belgium



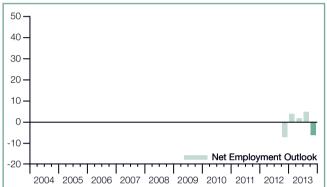
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Bulgaria



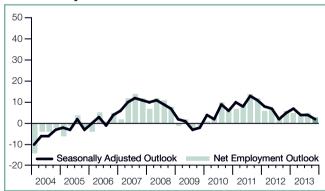
Bulgaria joined the survey in Q1 2011.

#### Finland

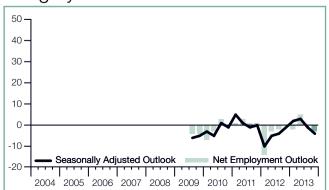


Finland joined the survey in Q4 2012.

#### Germany



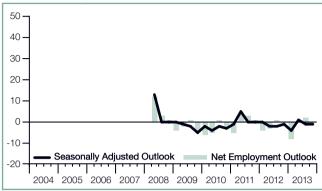
#### Hungary



Hungary joined the survey in Q3 2009.

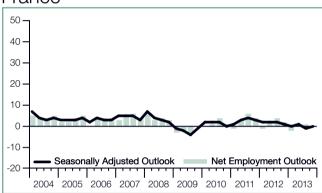
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Czech Republic



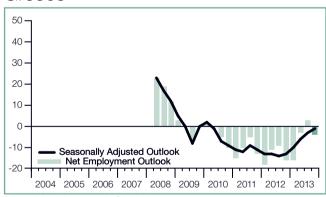
Czech Republic joined the survey in Q2 2008. No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### France



No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

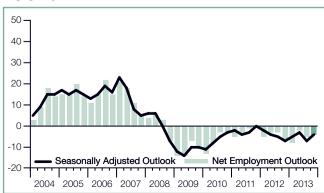
#### Greece



Greece joined the survey in Q2 2008.

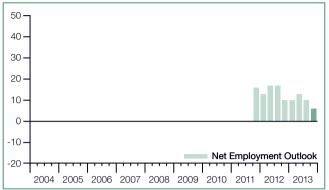
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Ireland



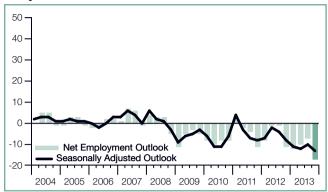
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Israel



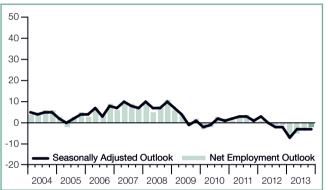
Israel joined the survey in Q4 2011.

#### Italy



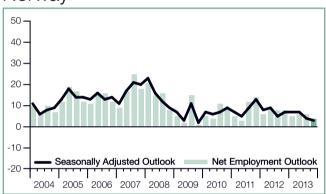
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Netherlands

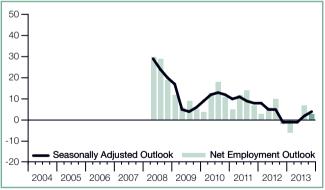


No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Norway

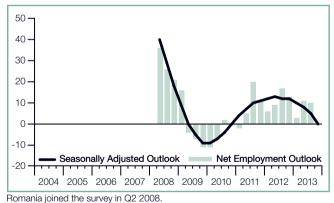


Poland



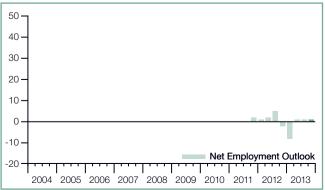
Poland joined the survey in Q2 2008. No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Romania



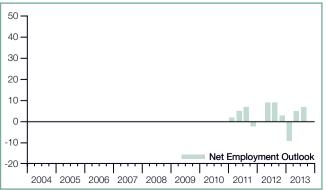
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Slovakia



Slovakia joined the survey in Q4 2011.

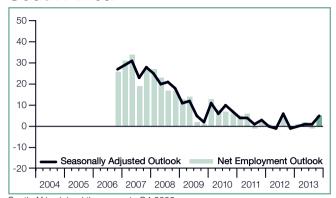
#### Slovenia



Slovenia joined the survey in Q1 2011.

No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

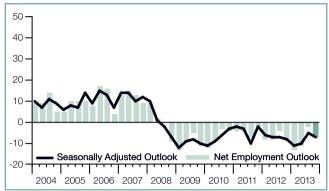
#### South Africa



South Africa joined the survey in Q4 2006.

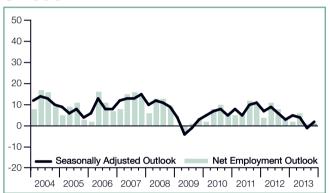
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Spain



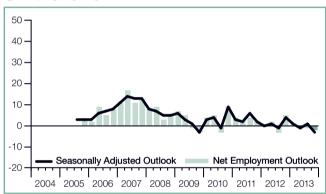
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

#### Sweden



No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

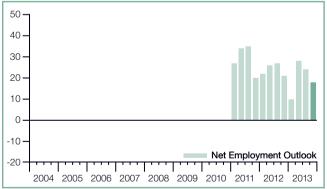
#### Switzerland



Switzerland joined the survey in Q3 2005.

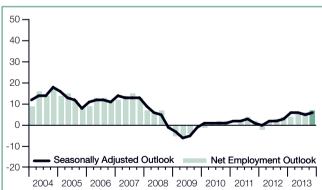
No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

## Turkey



Turkey joined the survey in Q1 2011.

#### UK



No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero.

# About the Survey

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is conducted quarterly to measure employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforces during the next quarter. ManpowerGroup's comprehensive forecast of employer hiring plans has been running for more than 50 years and is one of the most trusted surveys of employment activity in the world. Various factors underpin the success of the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey:

**Unique:** It is unparalleled in its size, scope, longevity and area of focus.

Projective: The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is the most extensive, forward-looking employment survey in the world, asking employers to forecast employment over the next quarter. In contrast, other surveys and studies focus on retrospective data to report on what occurred in the past.

Independent: The survey is conducted with a representative sample of employers from throughout the countries and territories in which it is conducted. The survey participants are not derived from ManpowerGroup's customer base.

Robust: The survey is based on interviews with over 65,000 public and private employers across 42 countries and territories to measure anticipated employment trends each quarter. This sample allows for analysis to be performed across specific sectors and regions to provide more detailed information.

**Focused:** For more than five decades the survey has derived all of its information from a single question.

#### Survey Question

For the Quarter 4 2013 research, all employers participating in the survey worldwide are asked the same question, "How do you anticipate total employment at your location to change in the three months to the end of December 2013 as compared to the current quarter?"

#### Methodology

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is conducted using a validated methodology, in accordance with the highest standards in market research. The research team for the 42 countries and territories where the survey is currently conducted includes ManpowerGroup's internal research team and Infocorp Ltd. The survey has been structured to be representative of each national economy. The margin of error for all national, regional and global data is not greater than +/- 3.9%.

#### Net Employment Outlook

Throughout this report, we use the term "Net Employment Outlook." This figure is derived by taking the percentage of employers anticipating an increase in hiring activity and subtracting from this the percentage of employers expecting to see a decrease in employment at their location in the next quarter. The result of this calculation is the Net Employment Outlook. Net Employment Outlooks for countries and territories that have accumulated at least 17 quarters of data are reported in a seasonally adjusted format unless otherwise stated.

#### Seasonal Adjustment

Seasonal adjustments have been applied to the data for Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States to provide additional insight into the survey data. These adjustments make it possible to review the data without the employment fluctuations that normally occur at the same time each year, thus providing a clearer picture of the data over time. ManpowerGroup intends to add seasonal adjustments to the data for other countries in the future, as more historical data is compiled. Note that in Quarter 2 2008. ManpowerGroup adopted the TRAMO-SEATS method of seasonal adjustment for data.

#### History of the Survey

- 1962 First generation of the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey launched in the United States and Canada.
- 1966 ManpowerGroup's United Kingdom operation launches the equivalent of the United States survey, naming the report the Quarterly Survey of Employment Prospects. The survey adopts the same forward-looking research format as the United States survey and is the first of its kind in Europe.
- 1976 Second generation of the Manpower Employment
  Outlook Survey launched in the United States and
  Canada. Research methodology is updated to evolve
  with advancements in the field of market research.
- 2002 ManpowerGroup United Kingdom's Quarterly Survey of Employment Prospects is updated to adopt an enhanced research methodology. ManpowerGroup's operations in Mexico and Ireland launch the survey in their respective countries.
- 2003 Third generation of the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is launched, expanding the program to a total of 18 countries and territories worldwide: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- 2004 ManpowerGroup operations in New Zealand launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.
- 2005 ManpowerGroup operations in China, India, Switzerland and Taiwan launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.
- 2006 ManpowerGroup operations in Costa Rica and Peru join the survey program. Surveys in Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Spain and Sweden add seasonally adjusted data in the third quarter. ManpowerGroup operations in South Africa launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

- 2007 ManpowerGroup operations in Argentina launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey. The survey in New Zealand adds seasonally adjusted data in the first quarter.
- 2008 ManpowerGroup operations in Colombia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Poland and Romania join the survey program. China and Taiwan add seasonally adjusted data in the second quarter. India and Switzerland add seasonally adjusted data in the third quarter.
- 2009 ManpowerGroup operations in Hungary and Brazil launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.
- 2010 ManpowerGroup's Panama operation launches the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, expanding the program total to 36 countries and territories worldwide. Peru adds seasonally adjusted data in the second quarter. Costa Rica adds seasonally adjusted data in the fourth quarter.
- 2011 Beginning in the first quarter, operations in Bulgaria, Slovenia and Turkey join the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey. Seasonally adjusted data is added in the first quarter for Argentina and South Africa. Israel and Slovakia launch the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey in the fourth quarter.
- 2012 Beginning in the second quarter, ManpowerGroup operations in the Czech Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Poland and Romania initiate reporting of seasonally adjusted data. ManpowerGroup's operation in Finland joins the survey in the fourth quarter. Seasonal variations are also removed from Colombian data for the first time.
- 2013 ManpowerGroup Hungary operation begins reporting seasonally adjusted data in the third quarter and the Brazil operation begins reporting seasonally adjusted data in the fourth quarter.

# About ManpowerGroup™

ManpowerGroup<sup>™</sup> (NYSE: MAN) is the world leader in innovative workforce solutions that ensure the talent sustainability of the world's workforce for the good of companies, communities, countries, and individuals themselves. Specializing in solutions that help organizations achieve business agility and workforce flexibility, ManpowerGroup leverages its 65 years of world of work expertise to create the work models, design the people practices and access the talent sources its clients need for the future. From staffing, recruitment, workforce consulting, outsourcing and career management to assessment, training and development, ManpowerGroup delivers the talent to drive the innovation and productivity of organizations in a world where talentism is the dominant economic system. Every day, ManpowerGroup connects more than 630,000 people to work and builds their experience and employability through its relationships with 400,000 clients across 80 countries and territories. ManpowerGroup's suite of solutions is offered through ManpowerGroup<sup>™</sup> Solutions, Manpower<sup>®</sup>, Experis<sup>™</sup> and Right Management<sup>®</sup>. ManpowerGroup was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the third consecutive year in 2013, confirming our position as the most trusted brand in the industry.