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**UNDER STRICT EMBARGO:**

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## **Dutch employers expect a steady increase in staffing levels**

### **this quarter**

*The Construction sector maintains its position as the strongest sector*

Diemen, 10 March 2020

**The expected hiring intentions for the coming quarter have risen by 2 percentage points compared with the previous quarter. The Net Employment Outlook (NEO) for the second quarter of 2020 stands at +12%, according to the latest edition of the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey. The survey was conducted among 751 Dutch employers, part of a sample of nearly 59,000 employers worldwide.**

The NEO of +12% reflects a slight increase of 2 percentage points compared to the previous quarter. There is no difference compared with the second quarter of 2019, maintaining a steady employment Outlook of +12%. The NEO is derived by taking the percentage of employers anticipating an increase in hiring activity and subtracting from this the percentage of employers expecting a decrease in hiring activity.

### **Employers in the Wholesale & Retail Trade in particular expect to hire more staff**

Growth is expected across all sectors. In numbers:

- A moderate increase is visible at Hotels & Restaurants. This sector reported +2% last quarter. This quarter there has been an increase of seven percentage points to +9%;
- Also a moderate increase in Wholesale & Retail from +5% in the first quarter of 2020 to +13% for the coming quarter;



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- The Financial & Business Services sector is the only sector where there is a slight decrease compared to last quarter. Marked by a three percentage point decrease from +15% in Q1 to +12% in Q2.
- The Construction sector remains the most optimistic of all sectors for the seventh quarter in a row. With a slight increase of one percentage point, the NEO now stands at +21%.

### People outside the Randstad are also positive

The West, including the Randstad region, sees employers feeling the most positive about their future hiring plans. Employers in other regions are optimistic as well and expect an increase in the number of employees. In the East and the North, employers are the most optimistic with Outlooks of +15%. The North reported a ten percentage points increase compared to the last quarter and in the South, the NEO is +9%.

Jeroen Zwinkels, general manager of ManpowerGroup in the Netherlands commented: “It is positive that employers across the various sectors and regions, expect to hire more staff. It is too early to predict the potential impact of Covid-19 on hiring plans. For now it seems that employers are looking at current economic developments with confidence.”

A complete overview of the results of the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey is available for download at <https://www.manpowergroup.com/workforce-insights/data-driven-workforce-insights/manpowergroup-employment-outlook-survey-results>. The Q3 2020 survey will be released on 9 June 2020.

*“This survey was conducted between January 6 and January 28 before the global escalation of Covid-19”*

### About ManpowerGroup

ManpowerGroup® (NYSE: MAN), the leading global workforce solutions company, helps organizations transform in a fast-changing world of work by sourcing, assessing, developing and managing the talent that enables them to win. We develop innovative solutions for hundreds of thousands of organizations every year, providing them with skilled talent while finding meaningful, sustainable employment for millions of people across a wide range of industries and skills. Our expert family of brands – Manpower®, Experis®, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup® Solutions – creates substantially more value for candidates and clients across 80 countries and territories and has done so for over 70 years. In 2020, ManpowerGroup was named one of Fortune's Most Admired Companies for the seventeenth year and one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the eleventh year,



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Notes to the editor, not for publication

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