



ManpowerGroup®

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 12 MARCH 2019**

**(00:01 Local time)**

### Contact

Josh Goh  
Marketing Director  
ManpowerGroup Singapore  
D: +65 6551 5321  
E: [josh.goh@manpower.com.sg](mailto:josh.goh@manpower.com.sg)

### **Singapore Job Seekers Can Expect a Favorable Hiring Climate for Q2 2019: Latest ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey**

- Singapore's Net Employment Outlook is +11% for Q2 2019, with employers in the Services sector reporting strongest hiring outlook in over 3 years
- The weakest sector Outlook of +7% is reported in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector, declining by 2 percentage points from last quarter.
- Japanese employers report the strongest hiring plans in the region for the fourth consecutive quarter, while the weakest Outlook is reported in China.

**SINGAPORE (12 MARCH 2019)** – Hiring activity in Singapore is expected to remain modest for Q2 2019, with employers in Singapore reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of +11%, reveals the latest ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey.

Over 680 employers were surveyed, with 15% of employers expecting to increase staffing levels, 4% anticipating a decrease and 80% expecting no change. Hiring plans remain relatively stable when compared with the previous quarter and are unchanged in comparison with Q2 2018.

The Net Employment Outlook 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.

Employers in all seven industry sectors plan to hire new staff over the next three months. The strongest labor market activity is reported by employers in the Services sector, which hits a three-year high with an expected hiring outlook of +18%.

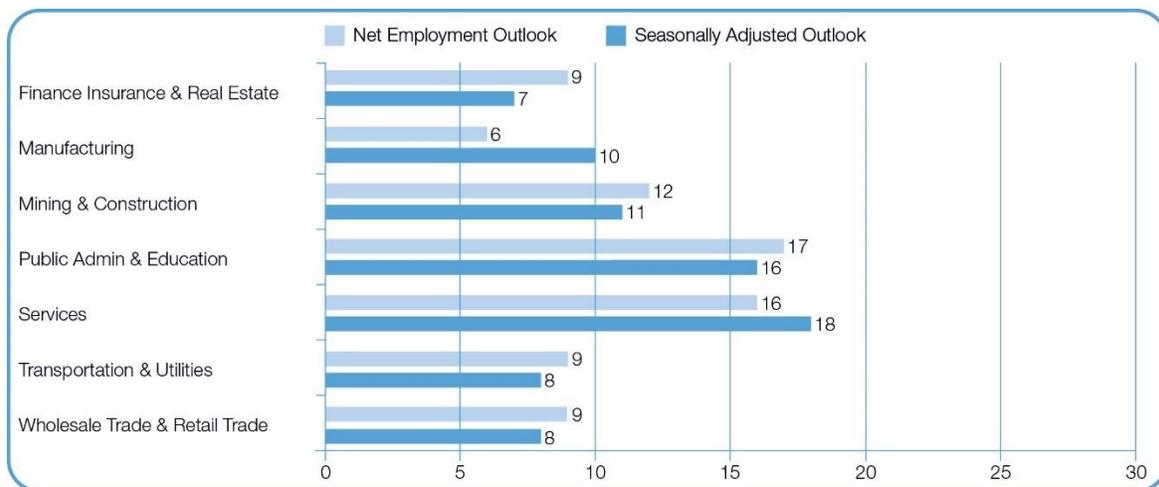
Ms Linda Teo, Country Manager of ManpowerGroup Singapore, attributes the upbeat hiring outlook in the Services sector to the growing needs for digital services. "With more companies turning to technology to meet consumer demands and enhance productivity, demand for digital services is growing. Optimistic about business prospects, companies specializing in digitization software and other digital services are hiring more actively than ever to secure talents specializing in software development and e-commerce."



## ManpowerGroup®

“However, with the recent Budget 2019 announcement plans to cut the Dependency Ratio Ceiling for firms in the services<sup>1</sup> sector, employers in the services and retail sectors need to rethink their business strategies, such as incorporating new technology to automate and streamline their workflow,” continues Ms Teo. “To ensure businesses remain sustainable, there is also a need for a paradigm shift in how service is delivered without compromising the consumer experience. Employers need to redesign service roles that address locals’ mindset that service roles have little career prospects with unrewarding working hours and pay to attract and retain more local talents in the long run,” advises Ms Teo

Elsewhere, employers in the Public Administration & Education sector also foresee steady payroll gains, reporting an Outlook of +16%. Outlooks of +11% and +10% are reported for the Mining & Construction sector and the Manufacturing sector, respectively. Outlooks stand at +8% in both the Transportation & Utilities sector and the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector, while the weakest Outlook of +7% is reported by Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector employers.



Hiring intentions strengthen in five of the seven industry sectors when compared with the previous quarter, most notably the Services sector, which improve by 7 percentage points. However, hiring prospects decline by 4 and 2 percentage points in the Manufacturing sector and the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector, respectively.

In Asia Pacific, payroll gains are expected to a varying extent in all eight countries and territories during the next three months. Japanese employers report the strongest hiring plans in the region for the fourth consecutive quarter, while the weakest Outlook is reported in China. Employers in two countries and territories report stronger hiring intentions when compared with the previous quarter, but Outlooks decline in four.

-end-

<sup>1</sup> Please note:

- services with a small s: refers to the government’s definition of firms in the services sector.
- Services with a capital S: refers to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey report’s categorization of services, which comprises of companies providing Business Services, Telecoms services, IT services and Hospitals.



ManpowerGroup®

## Notes to Editors

Net Employment Outlook: This figure is derived by taking the percentage of employers anticipating total employment to increase and subtracting from this the percentage expecting to see a decrease in employment at their location in the next quarter.

The next ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey will be released on 11 June and will forecast labor market activity for the third quarter of 2019. The ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey is available free of charge to the public through their local Manpower representative in participating countries. To receive an e-mail notification when the survey is available each quarter, please complete an online subscription form at: <http://investor.manpower.com/alerts.cfm>

###

## About ManpowerGroup Singapore

Established in 1996 in Singapore, ManpowerGroup works with a range of manufacturing, resources, mining, transport and logistics, government, blue chip investment and retail banks, IT vendors and outsourcers, telecoms service providers and infrastructure, utilities and engineering services companies. In Singapore, the ManpowerGroup suite of solutions is offered through ManpowerGroup® Solutions, Manpower®, Experis®, and Right Management®. More information on ManpowerGroup Singapore is available at: [www.manpowergroup.com.sg](http://www.manpowergroup.com.sg)

## 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 70 years. In 2019, 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 ninth year in 2018, confirming our position as the most trusted and admired brand in the industry. See how ManpowerGroup is powering the future of work: [www.manpowergroup.com](http://www.manpowergroup.com)