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ManpowerGroup™

ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey Q2 2020: Steady job growth expected this spring

Swedish employers are optimistic and believe in growing demand for labor in the spring. The Net Employment Outlook for the second quarter of 2020 is +10%, which means a forecast for steady job growth. Employers in Finance, Real Estate & Business Services are the most optimistic, with an extremely strong Net Employment Outlook of +26%. These are some of the results from the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey.

“This forecast from Swedish employers shows that the labor market continues to be stable and suggests that there will not be a recession in the spring. At the same time, we know that there is a huge skills shortage, which makes recruitment challenging for many companies. We are calling for measures to be taken, with an increased political focus on raising the skill level of Sweden's workforce,” says Mikael Jansson, CEO of ManpowerGroup Sweden.

The Net Employment Outlook for Sweden is +10%, which means that Swedish employers expect an increase in demand for labor during the second quarter of the year. Internationally, employers are also upbeat about the number of job opportunities this spring. In total, 43 of the 44 countries participating in the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey report positive forecasts. Of the 24 European countries in the survey, in a ranking of the strongest forecasts, the Swedish forecast comes in at an eleventh place together with Ireland.

Positive signals throughout Sweden – strongest forecast from Östra Götaland

Employers in all six surveyed regions report positive hiring plans for the second quarter of 2020. The strongest job outlook of +16% comes from employers in Östra Götaland, while their counterparts in the metropolitan regions of Skåne, the Stockholm-Uppsala Region and Västra Götaland report steady hiring plans. The weakest Net Employment Outlook comes from employers in Central Sweden, which includes the counties of Södermanland, Västmanland, Värmland and Örebro, with a cautiously positive outlook of +4%.

Strongest hiring prospects from employers in Finance, Real Estate & Business Services

Hiring plans for the second quarter of 2020 are positive in all surveyed sectors. Employers in Finance, Real Estate & Business Services report an extremely strong job outlook at +26 for the second quarter of 2020. Employers in Construction and Restaurants & Hotels also expect to hire many more people this spring, with a Net Employment Outlook of +15% and +14%, respectively. Job forecasts for Retail Trade and Manufacturing are on the same level as the national average.

“It is reassuring to see a strong outlook from several important sectors that employ a large share of the Swedish workforce. When many employers want to hire, competition for the most desirable skills intensifies, and it is possible that some positions may be left vacant. Such a situation challenges businesses to meet the growing demand for skills development in-house,” says Mikael Jansson.

Leaderboards

Job forecasts in Swedish regions

Sectors with the strongest job forecasts

Countries with the strongest job forecasts globally

About ManpowerGroup

ManpowerGroup™ is the world leader in employment services. We help organizations to transform in a rapidly changing world by finding and training talent that enable our customers to grow. ManpowerGroup™ Sweden has 12,000 employees in over 50 locations with four brands: Manpower®, Experis®, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup® Solutions. Every year we place 20,000 people in jobs in Sweden.

Appendices

Report: ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey Q2 2020 (in English)
Methodology (in English, **note that this is new beginning in Q2 2020**)

For more information, please contact:

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The Q3 2020 ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey will be published on June 10.

Job forecasts in Swedish regions

- Östra Götaland, +16%
- Stockholm-Uppsala region, +13%
- West Sweden (Västra Götaland and Halland), +12%
- Skåne and Blekinge, +10%
- Northern Sweden, +9%
- Central Sweden (Södermanland, Västmanland, Värmland and Örebro), +4%

Sectors with the strongest job forecasts

- Service industry (Finance, Real Estate & Business Services), +26%
- Construction, +15%
- Restaurants & Hotels, +14%
- Manufacturing, +10%
- Wholesale & Retail Trade, + 10%

Countries with the strongest job forecasts globally

- Japan, +24%
- Greece, +24%
- Taiwan, +24%
- Romania, +20%
- US, +19%

About the Net Employment Outlook

The Net Employment Outlook for Sweden for the second quarter of 2020 is +10 percent. The Net Employment Outlook is defined as the percentage of employers who anticipate an increase in hiring activities, minus the percentage who project a decrease. During the second quarter of 2020, 19% of Swedish employers expect job gains, 6% expect to reduce staff, 2% respond with “don’t know” and the majority (75%) expect employment to remain unchanged. The employment outlook for Sweden is therefore +13% and after adjustment for seasonal variations, the Net Employment Outlook is +10%.

About the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey

The ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey has been conducted in Sweden for 16 years and is the only global survey that measures future hiring intentions; in other words, it is predictive, rather than retrospective. The survey is based on interviews with more than 58,000 public and private employers in 44 countries. Over 750 interviews were conducted in Sweden.

The survey is unique in its size, geographic scope, and industry coverage. The scope of the survey makes it possible to provide detailed analyses of both sectors and regions. The respondents comprise a representative sample of employers in each country and they are not taken from ManpowerGroup’s client database. For over 55 years, employers all over the world have been asked the same question. “How do you anticipate total employment at your location to change in the three months as compared to the current quarter?”. Decision-makers and analysts around the world make good use of the survey results.

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The survey was conducted between 6 January and 28 January before the global climb of Covid-19.

Information about the new methodology

Beginning with Q2 2020 a new methodology is being used to make it easier to compare the results on a global level. Instead of surveying ten different sectors, certain categories that comprise a small share of the national labor force have been considered together.

Manufacturing, Construction, Wholesale & Retail Trade, Restaurants & Hotels, and Finance, Real Estate & Business Services remain in the survey. The new sector “Other Production” includes Mining & Quarrying, Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing and Electricity, Gas & Water. The new sector “Other services” includes Public & Social and Transport, Storage & Communication.

Changes in how data are weighted between countries have also been modified. Previously, data were processed and weighted differently based on the size of the countries and regions, but beginning with Q2 2020 all surveyed regions use the same analytical model. As a result, the figures will be more consistent and internationally comparable.

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