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Brazilian hiring intentions are strongest reported since 2014, according to ManpowerGroup

Brazil's first-quarter Net Employment Outlook is +8%, an increase of one percentage point in relation the last quarter and of two percentage points in comparison the same period last year. Gains across Agriculture, Fishing & Mining sector and Wholesale & Retail Trade offset declines in Construction sector

ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey: Quarter 1 2019

BRAZIL (11 December 2018) – Brazilian's employment Outlook is now the strongest reported in four years heading into the New Year as an increase in hiring intentions across key sectors, such as Agriculture, Fishing & Mining sector, has offset a decline within the Construction sector.

These are the key findings from the *ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey* for the upcoming quarter, which reports a national Net Employment Outlook of +8% for Brazil signalling that more employers expect to increase staffing levels than not in the first three months of 2019. This result represents an increase one percentage point in relation the last quarter and two percentages points in comparison the same period last year. The survey collects data from over 60,000 employers in 44 countries, including over 851 Brazilian employers.

ManpowerGroup Brazilian CEO Nilson Pereira says the latest data reveals despite the timid growth a good future perspective in most regions and sectors. *"This result is relatively stable when compared the last quarter and the same period in 2017. In the last seven quarters employers have reported positive Outlooks and this newest data is the strongest forecast reported since the last quarter in 2014"*.

"After the definition of the presidential elections we have noticed in the entrepreneurs the expectation of recovery and the creation of jobs, but more concrete actions will depend on the capacity of the new government to implement the necessary measures to strengthen the economy. It is very positive to see the significant improvement of the Agriculture and Trade indicators, as we know the importance of both for our economy. We are already experiencing an increase in vacancies for the end of the year and it is possible to glimpse a more promising scenario in the first months of 2019", said Mr Pereira.

The latest data reveals that employers across all sectors, regions and organisation sizes are reporting positive employment Outlooks for the start of the year, with the exception employers in Rio de Janeiro State and Construction sector that reported negative indicators.

In particular, hiring intentions across the Construction sector have declined by a steep 2 percentage points when compared to this same time last year. This decline began in the first quarter of 2015 and has continued to drift more modest levels since.

However, this sharp decline has been offset by year-on-year gains elsewhere. Most notable is an increase in hiring intentions across the Agriculture, Fishing & Mining sector, which reports an increase of eight percentage points quarter-on-quarter and 12 percentage points compared to Q1 18. Employers in the Transportation & Utilities sector and Wholesale & Retail Trade sector also reported an increase of six percentage points year-on-year. Wholesale & Retail Trade sector employers report increase of two percentage points quarter-on-quarter, signalling that the sector is preparing for a post-Christmas boost in hiring.

“We expect the gains we see in the Wholesale & Retail trade are a sign that employers are anticipating a need to increase headcount in preparation for a post-Christmas bounce at the start of the New Year. The Construction sector should may also rebound and show more positive numbers too once the economy strengthens”, said Mr. Pereira.

Brazil's Sector Comparisons

Regionally, employers in Minas Gerais State and Parana State report the strongest Net Employment Outlooks of +13%. Elsewhere, Great São Paulo employers report cautiously optimistic hiring intentions with an Outlook of +9%, and some job gains are forecast for São Paulo City where the Outlook is +6%. However, the Rio de Janeiro labor market continues to slump, with employers reporting an Outlook of -4%. In a comparison with the previous quarter, hiring intentions improve by five and two percentage points in Minas Gerais State and São Paulo City, respectively. “We believe that the setback in Rio de Janeiro may soon strengthen slightly, especially with the resumption of investments in oil gas sector. We'll wait and watch for further developments”, comments Pereira.

Organization Size Comparisons

Large businesses report the most robust employment expectations with MEO's of +18%, while medium and small organisations stands at +3% and +2% respectively.

International Comparisons

Across the America region the strongest Outlooks are reported in the United States (+20%), México (+14%), and Canadá (+12%).

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