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Press Release
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Croatian employers report robust hiring plans of +34% for the second quarter of 2019.

ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey indicates robust hiring prospects for the second quarter 2019 in all four regions and all eight industry sectors

Zagreb, 12 March 2019. - Croatian employers anticipate robust job gains in the second quarter of 2019, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +34%*. Hiring prospects improve by 20 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter and are 5 percentage points stronger when compared with this time one year ago.

Employers in all eight industry sectors expect to add to payrolls during the forthcoming quarter. Restaurants & Hotels sector employers report bullish hiring plans, with a Net Employment Outlook of +58%. Elsewhere, employers in two sectors, Construction and Manufacturing, anticipate a robust hiring pace, with Outlooks of +37% each.

In comparison with the previous quarter, hiring prospects improve in all eight industry sectors, most notably by a steep margin of 62 percentage points in the Restaurants & Hotels sector.

A booming labor market is forecast in the West where the Net Employment Outlook stands at +49%, and employers in the South expect a brisk hiring pace, reporting an Outlook of +40%. Solid workforce gains are anticipated in both the East and Central regions, where Outlooks stand at +28%.

Croatian employers across all four organization size categories forecast workforce gains during the upcoming quarter. Large employers report bullish hiring intentions with a Net Employment Outlook of +50%, and a dynamic labor market is anticipated by Medium employers who report an Outlook of +45%. Elsewhere, Outlooks of +31% and +25% are reported by Small- and Micro-size employers, respectively. Micro employers report a considerable increase of 9 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago, and the Small employer Outlook is 3 percentage points stronger.

“The second-quarter survey reveals that employers are generally very optimistic regarding job gains in the next quarter. Much of the employer confidence revealed in the survey may be based on hiring that routinely takes place as we approach the busy summer months. These are hiring gains that we expect to see as we approach the tourist season. But we should be aware that there is no guarantee that gains like these will be sustained later in the year,” concluded Nebojša Biškup.

Global and EMEA results

ManpowerGroup interviewed over 59,000 employers in 44 countries and territories to forecast labor market activity in April-June 2019. The research reveals that employers in 40 of 44 countries and territories expect to add to payrolls.

The most positive hiring sentiment is reported in Croatia, Japan, Greece, the U.S., Hong Kong and Taiwan, while the weakest ~~labour~~labor markets are expected in Argentina, Hungary, Spain and Turkey. Employers in 15 of 44 countries and territories report stronger hiring plans when compared with the 1Q, while weaker hiring intentions are reported in 18 and no change is expected in 11. When compared with the second quarter of 2018, Outlooks improve in 13 countries and territories, but decline in 27 and are unchanged in 4.

In the Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) region, 23 of 26 countries anticipate an increase in payrolls during the second quarter, while flat hiring plans are expected for 3 countries. Quarter-over-quarter, hiring intentions improve in 10 countries, but decline in 8. In comparison with this time one year ago, employers report stronger hiring plans in 10 countries, but Outlooks weaken in 15. The strongest hiring prospects are reported from Croatian and Greek employers, while the weakest ~~labour~~labor markets are anticipated in Hungary, Spain and Turkey.

All 8 Asia Pacific countries and territories expect workforce gains for the April-June timeframe. When compared with the previous quarter, employers in 2 countries and territories report stronger hiring intentions, while Outlooks decline in 4. Year-over-year, hiring sentiment also strengthens in 2 countries and territories but weakens in 4. The strongest hiring activity is forecast in Japan and Hong Kong, while Chinese employers anticipate the most cautious hiring climate.

Employers in 9 of the 10 Americas countries surveyed expect to add to payrolls in the next three months, with a flat labour market forecast in one country. Quarter-over-quarter, hiring prospects improve in 3 countries, while declining in 6. When compared with this time one year ago, hiring plans strengthen in one country, but weaken in 8. The most optimistic hiring intentions are reported in the U.S. and Mexico, while Argentinian and Panamanian employers report the weakest Outlooks.

** Data is not seasonally adjusted for Croatia.*

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