

PRESS RELEASE Under embargo until 12 March 2019 (00.01 GMT)

Hiring intentions upbeat despite softening in key sectors

ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey: Quarter 2, 2019

New Zealand (12 March 2019) – Hiring intentions remain upbeat despite a softer outlook among New Zealand’s largest firms and across a number of key sectors, such as Transportation & Utilities, according to the latest data from the *ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey*.

The survey records a Net Employment Outlook (NEO) of +10% for New Zealand in the second quarter of the year, signaling that more companies expect to increase staffing levels than not. The *ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey* collects data from nearly 59,000 employers in 44 countries, including New Zealand.

The latest data reveal that employers across all sectors, regions and business sizes have a positive outlook for the second quarter of 2019, although there are a number of notable differences across the country.

In particular, employment expectations across the Transportation & Utilities sector have declined by -7 points compared to the same time last year, while the Manufacturing sector has recorded a decline of -3 points. However, the Mining & Construction sector has recorded an increase of +1 point in hiring intentions.

The most notable change has been amongst New Zealand’s largest employers, which have recorded a decline of -23 points compared to the same time last year. The effect is that larger businesses now have a softer outlook for payrolls than both small and medium sized enterprises for the first time in nearly a year.

Regional analysis reveals that employers in Wellington have an improved outlook for 2Q19 compared to the same time last year (+4 points), while those in Auckland and Christchurch have recorded declines of -4 and -5 points, respectively.

ManpowerGroup Australia & New Zealand Managing Director Richard Fischer argues that the latest data reveal a strong employment outlook for New Zealand despite a softening of hiring intentions amongst the largest employers.

“The latest data reveal that the employment outlook for New Zealand remains robust”, said Mr. Fischer. “Indeed, the data reveals that the employment market is

diverse and strong enough to be able to sustain softer hiring intentions amongst the largest firms. This is a positive outcome for the broader economy.”

Across the Asia-Pacific region, the strongest Outlooks are reported in Japan (+27%), Hong Kong (+19), Taiwan (+18%), and India (+13%).

About ManpowerGroup

ManpowerGroup® (NYSE: MAN) is the world’s workforce expert, creating innovative workforce solutions for nearly 70 years. We connect more than 600,000 people to meaningful work across a wide range of skills and industries every day. Through our ManpowerGroup family of brands – Manpower®, Experis®, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup® Solutions – we help more than 400,000 clients in 80 countries and territories address their critical talent needs, providing comprehensive solutions to resource, manage and develop talent. 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 makes powering the future of work humanly possible: www.manpowergroup.com.au.