



ManpowerGroup

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Dutch employers expect limited fourth-quarter hiring activity

Outlook remains relatively stable in quarter-on-quarter and year-on-year comparison

Diemen, 8 September 2015 – Employers in the Netherlands expect only modest payroll growth in the next three months compared to the previous quarter, with the most opportunities for job seekers expected in the Finance & Business Services sector. This is the outcome of ManpowerGroup's Manpower Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS Q4), conducted among 750 employers.

The Netherlands forecast of +1, compares to +2 in Q3 and 0% in Q4 2015. The +1 reflects forecasts that weaken by varying margins in six of nine industry sectors from three months ago. These include a decrease in the Mining & Quarrying (from +6 to 0), Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing (from -2 to -7) and Public & Social (from -1 to -4) sectors.

Jilko Andringa, Managing Director ManpowerGroup Netherlands shares his thoughts on the MEOS outcome: 'Slowly but surely employers in the Netherlands are demonstrating some resilience since the crisis ended. The employment outlook remains positive and is relatively stable when compared to the third quarter and last year at this time, but still has some way to go before reaching levels reported prior to the crisis.'

Outlook per sector

Payrolls are expected to grow in six of nine industry sectors and three of four regions during the next three months. Hiring intentions weaken in six sectors and two regions when compared with Q3. Year-over-year, outlooks decline in five sectors but improve in three regions.

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services sector employers anticipate the strongest sector labor market in the coming quarter, reporting an outlook of +6. The outlook is 2 percentage points stronger when compared with the previous quarter and remains relatively stable year-over-year.

The weakest of the nine sector outlooks stands at -7 in the Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing sector. Hiring prospects decline by 5 percentage points when compared to the previous quarter while remaining relatively stable year-over-year.

Regional outlook

Regionally, the strongest hiring plans are reported in the North where the Outlook is +3 unchanged quarter-over-quarter and improving by 6 points year-over-year.

The weakest regional Outlook of -2 is reported by employers in the South. Hiring intentions for the region remain relatively stable when compared to the previous quarter but decline by 6 percentage points year-over-year.

European outlook mixed from three months ago

The forecast in France sinks to -2, dropping by 6 percentage points from three months ago. Employers in the UK, like those in the Netherlands, anticipate a slightly weaker fourth-quarter hiring pace (+6 to +4). Belgium's forecast stands at +2 for the third consecutive quarter. Employers in Germany (from +5 to +6) and Spain (from +2 to +3) expect some slight payroll growth through the end of the year. Italy (-4), France (-2) and Greece (-2) and Finland (-1) are the only European countries featuring a negative employment outlook.

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Note to the editor, not for print:

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