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## **Irish employers reporting strongest hiring intentions since 2007 according to latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey**

- **Net Employment Outlook of +9% for Q3 2016 is strongest Irish labour market forecast reported since Q2 2007**
- **Employers in Electricity, Gas and Water sector forecast strongest hiring intentions of all 11 sectors evaluated**
- **Employers in Transport, Storage and Communications and Mining and Quarrying sectors forecast strongest year on year growth**
- **Dublin region employers report strongest hiring forecast regionally**

**Dublin, Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Irish employers are reporting the strongest labour market forecast recorded in Ireland since 2007, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey released today by ManpowerGroup Ireland, the leader in contingent and permanent innovative workforce solutions.

The survey, which measures employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforce during the next quarter, shows that Irish employers across 11 sectors are reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of +9% for the third quarter of 2016. This is a four percentage point improvement over the last quarter and three percentage points ahead of the same time frame last year. This Net Employment Outlook of +9% is the strongest reported in Ireland since Q2 of 2007.

In addition, all 11 sectors evaluated reported positive hiring intentions for Q3 of 2016, with seven sectors reporting a double digit Net Employment Outlook figure. This is only the second time since Q1 2008 that all sectors have forecast positive hiring intentions.

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is conducted by interviewing a representative sample of 620 Irish employers. All survey participants were asked: “How do you anticipate total employment at your location to change in the three months to the end of September 2016 as compared to the current quarter?”

The survey reveals that employers in the Electricity, Gas and Water sector are forecasting the **strongest hiring intentions** of all 11 sectors evaluated for Q3 2016, with three of every 10 employers indicating they will add to their payrolls in the next three months, and resulting in an employment outlook of +20%. This is followed by employers in the Restaurant and Hotels sector who are registering an outlook of +13%. Employers in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector, meanwhile, registered the weakest hiring intentions for Q3 2016 with an employment outlook of +2%.

In terms of **year on year growth**, the Transport, Storage and Communications sector and the Mining and Quarrying sector are forecasting the strongest hiring intentions out of the 11 sectors surveyed, with both growing by 10 percentage points. This is followed by the Pharmaceutical sector, which has grown 7 percentage points to reach an outlook of +11%.

When it comes to **quarter on quarter growth**, the forecast in the Transport, Storage and Communications sector shows the strongest growth, rising 9 percentage points from Q2 2016 to reach an outlook of +12% for Q3 2016. Meanwhile, employer confidence in the Manufacturing sector dips by varying margins, both quarterly and yearly.

Regionally, employers in **Dublin** are reporting the strongest hiring intentions of all provinces polled, with an outlook of +15%, while employers in **Ulster** recorded the only negative hiring intentions with an outlook of -1%.

**Cara O Leary, Sales Director of ManpowerGroup Ireland, says:**

*“The results of the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey for Q3 2016 strongly demonstrate that employer confidence in the Irish marketplace is growing at an accelerated pace. This is only the second time since 2008 that we are seeing a positive Net Employment Outlook across all 11 sectors surveyed, meaning that employers in all sectors expect to grow staff numbers over the coming months. This is really great news for both the Irish economy and job seekers.*”

*The Transport, Storage and Communications sector is reporting the strongest growth year on year as well as quarter on quarter, which will be of interest to any graduates moving into the working environment in the coming months. Recent job announcements from companies like Ryanair, who plan to fill 1,000 new positions for pilots, cabin crew and engineers this year, are contributing to the strong results for this sector.*

*“While hiring in the Pharmaceutical sector was down slightly quarter on quarter, it is still performing well with good year on year growth. This has been highlighted with recent job announcements from companies like Eirgen, Merck and MSD over the past few months. The news is also good at a regional level, with Dublin putting in a sterling performance. Leinster, Munster and Connaught are also performing well with strong single digit growth, which will be of interest to those seeking positions outside of the capital.”*

Below is an outline of the key findings from the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey:

- **All 11 sectors evaluated reported positive hiring intentions for Q3 of 2016**, with seven sectors reporting a double digit Net Employment Outlook.
- The **Electricity, Gas and Water sector employers forecast the strongest** third-quarter hiring intentions of all 11 sectors evaluated, with employers registering an employment outlook of +20%. While there is no growth on this figure from the previous quarter, it is up 4 percentage points on the same time last year. This represents the strongest hiring intentions for the sector since 2008.
- Employers in the **Restaurant and Hotels sector registered the second strongest outlook of +13%**. This is down one percentage point on the last quarter, but up four percentage points on the same period last year.
- **Transport, Storage and Communications** employers registered the next strongest outlook, reporting a +12% Net Employment Outlook for Q3 2016. This is a 9 percentage point increase on the previous quarter and a 10 percentage point increase when compared to this time last year.
- Employers in the **Wholesale and Retail** sector are expecting to accelerate hiring in Q3 2016, registering an outlook of +11%. This is up 6 percentage points on the last quarter and a five percentage point increase on last year.
- Employment in the **Mining and Quarry** sector is expected to accelerate, with an outlook of +11% reported, up two percentage points on the previous quarter, but up a strong 10 percentage points on the same period last year.

- Hiring in the **Pharmaceutical** sector is expected to improve, with a strong outlook of +11% reported. While this is down five percentage points on the last quarter, it is up seven percentage points on last year.
- Employers in the **Public and Social** sector reported an employment outlook of +10%, up 6 percentage points on the previous quarter, but down two percentage points on the previous year.
- **Construction** sector employers report a positive employment outlook of +7%, a minor slowdown of two percentage points from the previous quarter which recorded an outlook of +9%, but up four percentage points for the same period last year.
- Activity in the **Manufacturing** sector is expected to slow slightly, with a reported employment outlook of +6% for Q3 2016. This represents a six percentage points decrease quarter on quarter and a three percentage point decrease year on year.
- Similarly, employers in the **Finance and Business Services** sector also reported an outlook of +6% for Q3. This was a down 2 percentage points on the previous quarter and down 1 percentage point year on year.
- Employers in the **Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector** recorded an outlook of +2%, up 2 percentage points on the previous quarter and up four percentage points for the same period last year.
- **Employers in Dublin report the strongest hiring intentions** of all the five provinces polled, with an outlook of +15%, up a substantial 11 percentage points on the previous quarter and 13 percentage points on the same quarter last year.
- **Employers in Leinster continue to anticipate very positive growth**, with an outlook of +9%, up 2 percentage points for the previous quarter and up 3 percentage points on the same period last year.
- Employers in **Munster** also report an outlook of +9%, up 2 percentage points on the previous quarter but down two percentage points on the same period last year.
- The hiring pace in **Connaught is expected to slow slightly**, with an outlook of +8%. This is down 1 percentage point on the previous quarter, but up 6 percentage points on the previous year.

- Employers in **Ulster recorded the only negative hiring intentions** with an outlook of -1%, down two percentage points on the previous quarter and down 18 percentage points for the same period last year.

Results for all 43 countries can be viewed in the new interactive Manpower Employment Outlook Survey Explorer tool at <http://manpowergroupsolutions.com/DataExplorer/>

The next Manpower Employment Outlook Survey will be released on 13<sup>th</sup> of September to report hiring expectations for the final quarter of 2016. The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is available free of charge to the public and can be downloaded from [www.manpower.ie](http://www.manpower.ie).

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***Note to Editors:***

[1] All figures reported are based on seasonally adjusted data.

A 'Net Employment Outlook' is calculated by subtracting those employers who plan to reduce staffing levels from those who plan to hire staff. A positive result indicates that more employers plan to increase rather than decrease staffing levels; a negative result reflects the opposite. [% increase - % decrease]

For international comparisons and visual library with graphs, visit:

<http://manpowergroupsolutions.com/DataExplorer/>

Commentary is based on seasonally adjusted data where available. Full survey results for each of the 42 countries and territories included in this quarter's survey, plus regional and global comparisons, can be found in the ManpowerGroup Press Room at [www.manpowergroup.com/meos](http://www.manpowergroup.com/meos). In addition, all tables and graphs from the full report are available to be downloaded for use in publication or broadcast from the ManpowerGroup Web site at: [www.manpowergroup.com/press/meos.cfm](http://www.manpowergroup.com/press/meos.cfm)

Note that in Quarter 2 2008, the Survey adopted the TRAMO-SEATS model for seasonal adjustment of data. As a result, you may notice some seasonally adjusted data points change slightly from previous reports. This model is recommended by the Eurostat department of the European Union and the European Central Bank, and is widely used internationally.

***About the Survey:***

An innovative workforce solutions company, ManpowerGroup releases the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey quarterly to measure employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforce during the next quarter. It is the world's most extensive, forward-looking employment survey, polling nearly 59,000 employers in 43 countries and territories.

In Ireland, the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is conducted by interviewing a representative sample of 620 Irish employers. All survey participants were asked: "How do you anticipate total employment at your location to change in the three months to the end of June 2016 as compared to the current quarter?"

The overall Net Employment Outlook is calculated by taking the percentage of employers anticipating total employment to increase and subtracting from this the percentage expecting to see a decrease in employment at their location in the next quarter. This figure is then amended according to any seasonal variations in recruitment patterns as witnessed since the survey began in Ireland in 2002.

***About Manpower Ireland:***

Manpower is the global leader in contingent and permanent recruitment workforce solutions.

It is part of ManpowerGroup, the world leader in innovative workforce solutions, which creates and delivers high-impact solutions that enable clients to achieve their business goals and enhance their competitiveness.

Manpower has provided organisations in Ireland with a suite of staffing solutions for over 40 years, working with organisations ranging from small and medium sized enterprises to multinational companies.

In the Human Age, where talent has replaced access to capital as the key competitive differentiator, Manpower Ireland leverages its trusted brand to develop a deep talent pool, providing clients with access to the people they need, fast.

Manpower Ireland creates powerful connections between organisations and the talent they need to enhance their competitiveness and unleash their workforce potential. By creating these powerful connections, we help everybody achieve more than they imagined, and power the world of work.

Learn more about how Manpower Ireland can help you win in the Human Age at [www.manpower.ie](http://www.manpower.ie).

**ENDS**