

Under strict embargo until 8:00 a.m. on June 11, 2019



Press Release June 11, 2019

ManpowerGroup™

New forecast: Bright summer for Swedish labor market **ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey Q3 2019**

Swedish employers predict a hot summer – at least in terms of the number of job opportunities during the third quarter of 2019. The Net Employment Outlook is at +7%, according to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey. Employers in the Restaurants & Hotels sector in particular expect a substantial surge in demand for labor, while their counterparts in Manufacturing report a negative forecast for the first time since the close of 2016.

“It is encouraging that demand for labor is expected to remain steady over the summer. However, we realize that there is a major talent shortage in Sweden. When there is a lack of educated labor, politicians and employers need to think innovatively to meet both short- and long-term labor market needs,” says Mikael Jansson, CEO of ManpowerGroup Sweden.

Swedish employers anticipate growing demand for labor in the upcoming quarter with a Net Employment Outlook of +7%. Compared with the corresponding period last year, the forecast is three percentage points stronger, as Swedish employers reported a Net Employment Outlook of +4% for Q3 2018.

Optimistic forecasts from north to south

Employers in all regions report positive hiring intentions for the upcoming quarter. Employers are particularly optimistic about the summer in Northern Sweden and Central Sweden, with optimistic job forecasts of +15% and +11%, respectively. Skåne bounced back to a positive outlook of +4%, after the previous quarter’s negative Net Employment Outlook of -7%.

Employers in the Stockholm-Uppsala Region, are however less enthusiastic, with a weak Net Employment Outlook of +2%, indicating a rather limited demand for labor. The forecast for this region is two percentage points weaker than the previous quarter, +4%, and six percentage points weaker than the outlook for the first quarter of the year, which was +8%.

“Overall, prospects are bright on the Swedish labor market. One lone cloud on an otherwise clear horizon is the Stockholm-Uppsala Region, an important engine for the entire Swedish economy. The forecast for the region has been falling over the past three quarters, so there is reason to carefully monitor the trend in the coming quarters,” says Mikael Jansson.

Hot in Restaurants & Hotels, chilly in Manufacturing

Staffing levels are forecast to grow in the third quarter of 2019 in nine of the ten surveyed sectors in the Employment Outlook Survey. Restaurants & Hotels employers report the strongest forecast of the survey at +14%. Electricity, Gas & Water bounced back to a positive outlook of +9%, an upswing of an impressive 17 percentage points, after the previous quarter’s negative Net Employment Outlook of -8%. The job outlook for Manufacturing is -2%, the first negative forecast since the fourth quarter of 2016.

“The negative forecast from Manufacturing for the first time in three years is noteworthy because engineering companies have long been a major component of Sweden’s strong competitive edge worldwide. Meanwhile, the labor market trend is causing demand for digital and technological skills to increase in many other sectors, as tasks are automated and skills requirements change,” says Mikael Jansson.

Optimistic job forecasts all over the world

Employers in an impressive 43 of the 44 countries participating in the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey report optimistic hiring intentions, though the forecasts are generally somewhat weaker than in previous years. The forecast for the U.S. is stable at an extremely strong +21%, on a par with the previous quarter. Japan, Croatia and Taiwan top the list of countries with the largest predicted job growth globally. Hungary is the only country with a negative Net Employment Outlook.

“The U.S. has a fabulously stable job forecast and the country’s economy is stronger than it has been for a long time. These trends create an employee’s market, providing great opportunities to press for better wages and salaries, as well as more favorable terms for those who choose to change jobs. It will be exciting to follow the developments in this area moving forward,” says Mikael Jansson.

Leaderboards

Job forecasts in Swedish regions

Sectors with the strongest job forecasts

Countries with the strongest job forecasts in Europe

Countries with the strongest job forecasts globally

Appendices

Fact sheet: ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey Q3 2019

Report: ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey Q3 2019 (in English)

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The Q4 2019 ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey will be published on September 10.

Job forecasts in Swedish regions

- Northern Sweden, +15%
- Central Sweden (Södermanland, Västmanland, Värmland and Örebro), +11%
- West Sweden (Västra Götaland and Halland), +6%
- West Sweden (Västra Götaland and Halland), +6%
- Östra Götaland, +3%
- Stockholm-Uppsala region, +2%

Sectors with the strongest job forecasts

- Restaurants & Hotels, +14%
- Public sector, +10%
- Construction, +9%
- Electricity, Gas & Water, + 9%
- Transportation, +7%

Countries with the strongest job forecasts in Europe

- Croatia, +23% (figures are not seasonally adjusted)
- Greece, +20%
- Slovenia, +20%
- Romania, +14%
- Portugal, +12% (figures are not seasonally adjusted)

Countries with the strongest job forecasts globally

- Japan, +25%
- Croatia, +23% (figures are not seasonally adjusted)
- Taiwan, +22%
- US, +21%
- Greece, +20%
- Slovenia, +20%

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