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Mexican employers expect 2Q 2018 hiring pace to remain steady: Manpower Employment Outlook Survey

Opportunities for job seekers are expected to be strongest in the Transport & Communication industry sectors.

- Once seasonal variations are removed from the data, the Net Employment Outlook for Mexico stands at +12%— hiring prospects are unchanged in comparison to the previous quarter and last year at this time.
- Positive forecasts are reported in all industry sectors and regions.
- Ongoing NAFTA negotiations appear to have little effect on overall employer confidence.
- From a global perspective, employers forecast varying levels of job gains in 43 of 44 countries and territories during the April-June time frame.
- Among the countries and territories featuring seasonally adjusted data, confidence is strongest in Taiwan, Japan, Hungary and the United States, while the weakest hiring prospects are reported in Italy, the Czech Republic and Switzerland.

MEXICO CITY (March 13, 2018) – Mexican employers report respectable hiring plans for the 2Q 2018. With 18% of employers forecasting an increase in staffing levels, 4% anticipating a decrease, 77% expecting no change and 1% don't know, the Net Employment Outlook is +12% once the data is adjusted to allow for seasonal variation. Employers report no change in their hiring intentions when compared to the previous quarter and year.

Employers in the North expect the most active second-quarter hiring pace with Net Employment Outlook of +14%, followed by Occident region and Mexico City reporting +13% each. Northeast, Northwest and Southeast regions stand at +12%, while employers in the Center region predicted +11%.

A steady hiring pace is expected in the Transport & Communication industry sector, reporting seasonally adjusted Employment Outlook of +19%. Mining & Extraction and Manufacture sector employers both report Outlooks of +13%. Elsewhere, upbeat forecasts are reported in the Services (+11%) and Agriculture & Fishing (+10%) sectors. The second quarter's weakest—but still cautiously optimistic—Outlooks for the April – June time frame are reported in the Construction and Commerce sectors, standing at 9% each.

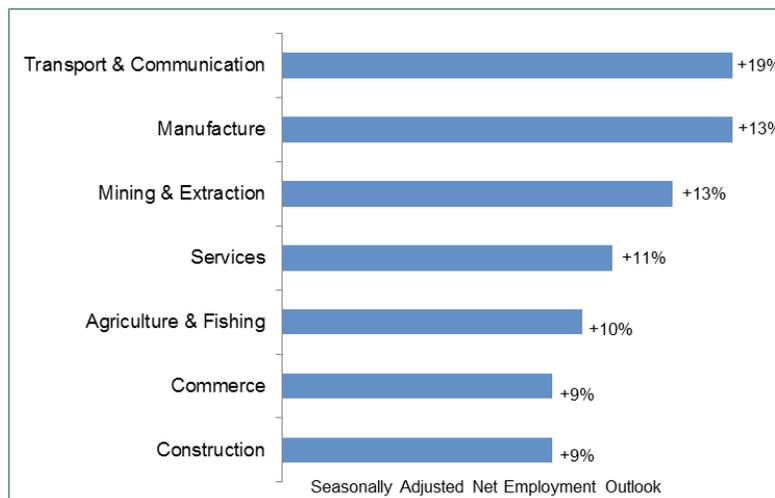
“The Outlook for the country does not signal major shifts in employer confidence for 2Q 2018. Despite the renegotiation of NAFTA and the coming elections employers hiring plans remain upbeat overall. The forecast for the April – June time frame is at +12% and it does not present changes in quarterly and annual comparison,” said Monica Flores, President for ManpowerGroup Latin America.

“For the second quarter of the year, the industry sector that reports the strongest Outlook is Transport & Communication with +19%, followed by Manufacture and Mining & Extraction employers who both report Outlooks of +13%. The forecast for Transport & Communication is probably due to the bidding of the 2.5 GHz Band which main objective will be to improve the quality of mobile services. Manufacture industry sector decreases by 2 and 4 percentage points compared quarterly and annually respectively, may be partly due to the uncertainty generated by the renegotiation of NAFTA in this sector. But employers are likely just waiting to see how the negotiations will affect them directly.”

Employers expect to grow staffing levels in Large, Medium, Small and Micro size- firms' categories during the 2Q 2018. Large employers report a favorable labor market with a seasonally adjusted Employment Outlook of +20%, nevertheless decreased by 2 percentage points quarter-to-quarter, and by 4 percentage points year-on-year. The Medium firm category's Outlook stands at +10%, Small report optimistic hiring plans with an Outlook of +9% and Micro companies +6%, increased by 2 percentage points when compare to last quarter and year.

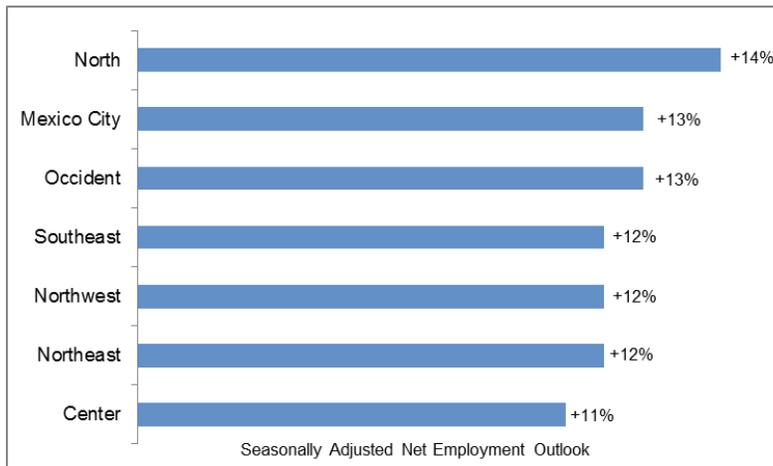
Elsewhere across the globe, employers forecast varying levels of job gains in 43 of 44 countries and territories during the April-June time frame, including Croatia where employers, surveyed for the first time, report healthy hiring intentions based on unadjusted survey data. When forecasts are compared with those reported in the first-quarter, hiring intentions improve in 17 countries and territories, decline in 17 and are unchanged in nine.** Some upward momentum is detected in the year-over-year comparison with forecasts improving in 25 of 43 countries and territories, declining in 13, and remaining unchanged in five.

Sector Comparisons



Employers in the Transport & Communication sector report the most optimistic hiring intentions for 2Q 2018.

Regional Comparisons



Employers in the North region expect the most active second-quarter hiring pace with Net Employment Outlooks of +14%.

Net Employment Outlook

Throughout this report, we use the term “Net Employment Outlook.” This figure is derived by taking the percentage of employers anticipating an increase in hiring activity and subtracting from this the percentage of employers expecting to see a decrease in employment at their location in the next quarter. The result of this calculation is the Net Employment Outlook. Net Employment Outlooks for countries and territories that have accumulated at least 17 quarters of data are reported in a seasonally adjusted format unless otherwise stated.

Seasonal adjustments have been applied to the data for all participating countries except Croatia and Portugal. ManpowerGroup intends to add seasonal adjustments to the data for other countries in the future, as more historical data is compiled. Note that in Quarter 2 2008, ManpowerGroup adopted the TRAMO-SEATS method of seasonal adjustment for data.

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ManpowerGroup Mexico, Caribbean and Central America

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