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Press Release

Croatian employers report optimistic hiring plans for the third quarter

Payrolls are expected to increase in all four regions and all eight industry sectors during the coming quarter. The strongest hiring pace is forecast for the West region and for the Restaurants & Hotels sector

Zagreb, 11 June 2019 - Croatian employers report optimistic hiring plans for the third quarter of 2019 and the strongest hiring prospects across all 26 EMEA countries surveyed. While 25% of employers expect to increase payrolls, 2% forecast a decrease and 70% anticipate no change, resulting in a Net Employment Outlook of +23%.

Payroll gains are forecast for all eight industry sectors during the next three months. The strongest labor market is anticipated in the Restaurants & Hotels sector, where the Net Employment Outlook stands at +35%. Healthy workforce gains are expected in the Construction sector and the Manufacturing sector – both with Outlooks of +27% – and in the Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing sector where the Outlook is +22%.

Employers in six of the eight industry sectors report weaker hiring plans when compared with the third quarter of 2018. A noteworthy decrease of 12 percentage points is reported in the Construction sector, while Outlooks are 6 percentage points weaker in both the Restaurants & Hotels sector and the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector.

Employers expect to add to payrolls in all four regions during the July-September period. The strongest labor market is forecast for the West, with a robust Net Employment Outlook of +36%. Healthy workforce gains are anticipated in the South and the Central region, with Outlooks standing at +24% and +21%, respectively, while employers in the East expect a steady hiring pace, reporting an Outlook of +13%.

Employers in all four organization size categories expect to increase staffing levels during the third quarter of 2019. Large employers report the strongest hiring plans with a robust Net Employment Outlook of +40%.

“Much of the employer confidence is based on hiring that routinely takes place at busy summer months during the tourist season. Also, Construction sector employers report optimistic hiring prospects and healthy hiring plans are reported in the Croatian Manufacturing sector, which makes me particularly excited. Companies are becoming more and more aware of the fact, that having the right talents drives productivity and profitability, enabling future growth,” said **Aleksandar Hangimana, Country Manager, ManpowerGroup Croatia**.

Global and EMEA results

ManpowerGroup interviewed over 59,000 employers in 44 countries and territories to forecast labor market activity* in the third quarter of 2019. At a global level, the research for the third quarter of 2019 reveals employers expect workforce gains in 43 of 44 countries and territories surveyed in the period up to the end of September.

The strongest hiring sentiment is reported in Japan, Croatia, Taiwan, the U.S., Greece and Slovenia, while the weakest hiring prospects are reported for Hungary, Argentina, Italy and Spain. Employers in 18 of 44 countries and territories report stronger hiring prospects, while employers in 18 report weaker hiring plans and no change is anticipated in 8. In a comparison with the same period last year, hiring intentions strengthen in 12 countries and territories, but weaken in 26 and are unchanged in 6.

In the Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) region, 25 of 26 countries anticipate an increase in payrolls during the next three months, while employers in Hungary expect to trim payrolls. Quarter-over-quarter, hiring prospects improve in 5 countries but weaken in 14. In comparison with this time one year ago, Outlooks also strengthen in five countries, but decline in 17. The strongest hiring expectations for the coming quarter are reported in Croatia, Greece and Slovenia, while employers in Hungary, Italy and Spain report the weakest hiring plans.

Employers in all eight Asia Pacific countries and territories surveyed expect to grow payrolls in the three months to September 2019. In a comparison with the prior quarter, hiring intentions strengthen in five countries and territories, but weaken in two. When compared with this time one year ago employers report stronger Outlooks in two countries and territories, but hiring prospects decline in five. Employers in Japan and Taiwan anticipate the strongest hiring activity during the third quarter of 2019, while the weakest Outlooks are reported in China, New Zealand and Singapore.

Job seekers in all 10 Americas countries surveyed can expect hiring opportunities in the forthcoming quarter, according to employers. When compared with the previous quarter, hiring prospects improve in eight countries, but weaken in two. In a comparison with the same period last year, Outlooks improve in five countries but decline in four. U.S. and Canadian employers report the strongest hiring prospects for the coming quarter, while the weakest Outlooks are reported in Argentina and Panama.

Full survey results for each of the 44 countries and territories included in this quarter's survey, plus regional and global comparisons, can be found at www.manpowergroup.com/meos.

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