



## U.S. Hiring Outlooks Continue To Improve For Q1 Though Pre-Pandemic Hiring Levels Will Take Longer To Return

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- Hiring intentions continue to improve in Q1 with an Employment Outlook of +17% recovering three percentage points from last quarter
- Employers anticipate a slower return to pre-pandemic hiring - 23% by April 2021, down from 36% when asked in June

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 8, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Employers in the U.S. report steadily improving hiring plans for Q1 according to the latest ManpowerGroup (NYSE: MAN) Employment Outlook Survey of more than 6,700 employers. The survey reveals employers are shifting their HR priorities for the long-term as a result of the pandemic with employee health & wellbeing, manager coaching and upskilling front and center for HR leaders.

### Key Highlights:

- Employers in all 12 U.S. industry sectors forecast positive outlooks in Q1 2021, with hiring intentions strengthening in 11 sectors quarter-over-quarter. The strongest outlooks are reported by employers in the Leisure and Hospitality (+26%) and Transportation and Utilities (+22%).
- Hiring intentions increase in all four U.S. regions, led by the Midwest with an Outlook of +20%.
- Employers in Vermont (+56%), Montana (+38%) and Iowa, (+31%), report the strongest outlooks nationwide; weakest outlooks Nevada (+1%) and Kentucky (+2%).
- The biggest quarter-over-quarter improvement is reported by Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (+19%), increasing 10 percentage points from the previous quarter.

Employers in Leisure and Hospitality (+26%), Transportation and Utilities (+22%), Wholesale and Retail Trade (+20%) report the three strongest outlooks for the second consecutive quarter as employers re-hire furloughed workers and the rise in e-commerce continues through the holiday season. Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (+19%) saw the greatest improvements, increasing 10 percentage points from the previous quarter. Education and Health Services (+14%) report the only decrease in hiring when compared to the previous quarter, down 1 percentage point.

"As the labor market navigates the impact of the pandemic, it's encouraging to see hiring outlooks continue to move in a positive direction on the road to recovery." Said Becky Frankiewicz, President of ManpowerGroup North America. "As Americans shop, socialize and work from multi-functional homes, operations and logistics roles to support e-commerce are in high demand and we are beginning to see green shoots in manufacturing too as supply chains reopen. Organizations are navigating for today while preparing their workforce for the New Next. We're pleased to see so many U.S. employers prioritize putting the "human" back into HR, focusing on employee well-being and skills development while implementing flexible work models so people can blend work and home for the long term."

View the complete Q1 2021 U.S. survey results: [ManpowerGroup.US/MEOS](https://www.manpowergroup.com/US/MEOS)

Region	Q1 2021	Quarter-over-Quarter Variation	Year-over-Year Variation
West	15%	2%	-4%
Midwest	20%	4%	-1%
South	17%	3%	-5%
Northeast	16%	1%	-2%

### U.S. Hiring Plans by Industry Sectors, Regions, Metro Areas and States

- Employers in all 12 U.S. industry sectors expect to add workers during the upcoming quarter: Leisure & Hospitality (+26%), Transportation & Utilities (+22%), Wholesale & Retail Trade (+20%), Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (+19%), Professional & Business Services (+17%), Construction (+17%), Education & Health Services (+14%), Financial Activities (+14%) and Durable Goods Manufacturing (+14%), Government (+10%), Information (+9%), and Other Services (+9%).
- Hiring intentions strengthen in all four U.S. regions when compared with the previous quarter. The strongest hiring pace is anticipated in the Midwest, Northeast employers expect steady hiring intentions, reporting an Outlook of +16%, and hiring activity is anticipated to improve in the South and the West, with outlooks of +17% and +15%, respectively.
- Employers in Vermont (+56%), Montana (+38%), Iowa, (+31%), South Dakota (+29%), and Arkansas (+26%), report the strongest outlooks nationwide. Of the 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas, the strongest outlooks are expected in Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL (+42%), Winston-Salem, NC (+34%), Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI (+34%), El Paso, TX (+34%)

and Des Moines-West Des Moines, IA (+31%).

To view complete results for the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey, visit: [www.manpowergroup.com/meos](http://www.manpowergroup.com/meos). The next survey will be released March 9, 2021 and will report hiring expectations for Q2 2021.

\*The survey – conducted October 2020 – is the most comprehensive, forward-looking employment survey of its kind, used globally as a key economic indicator.

The Net Employment Outlook is derived by taking the percentage of employers anticipating an increase in hiring activity and subtracting from this the percentage of employers expecting a decrease in hiring activity.

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