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Florida Employment Report: Overall Worker Confidence Edges Upward; More Workers Likely to Look for New Jobs

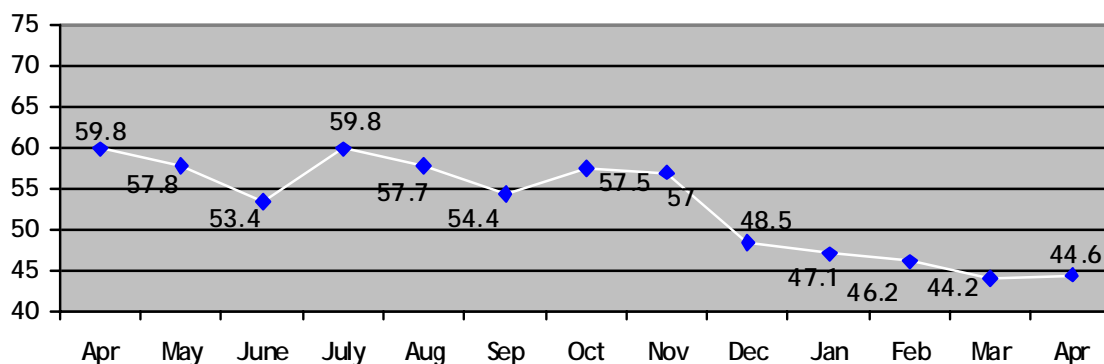
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., May 16, 2008 - The Florida Employee Confidence Index increased 0.4 points to 44.6 in April, rising for the first time since October 2007, according to the latest Spherion® Employment Report. The monthly survey of Florida workers, conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation, reveals that more workers believe that the economy and the job market have stabilized. In addition, a greater percentage of workers indicated that they are more likely to look for new jobs.

Results from the Florida Employment Report:

- One-third of Florida workers (33 percent) report that the economy is staying the same, an increase of 14 percentage points from the previous month.
- Nearly 40 percent (38 percent) of workers believe the same amount of jobs is available, showing a 14 percentage point increase from March.
- More workers report they are likely to look for a new job in the next year, with 36 percent indicating a desire to do so, an increase of six percentage points from the previous month.

"This month's report is encouraging," said Paula Franco, branch manager for Spherion Staffing Services in Florida. "More Florida workers are now feeling that the economy and job market have stabilized. Despite the increased doubt reported in workers personal employment situation, more indicate that they are likely to look for a new job in the next year as well. This doesn't come as much of a surprise to me. With a rising unemployment rate, we're seeing an increasing number of people out there searching for jobs. With many industries tied to the housing slump, many displaced workers continue to walk through our doors. We are advising these individuals to take inventory of their skills and be open to transferring them to other industries."

Employee Confidence Index



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April 2008 Employment Report Results

		<u>Florida Workers</u>			<u>U.S. Workers</u>		
		<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>
Economy	Getting Stronger	3%	6%	+3	6%	5%	-1
	Staying Same	19%	33%	+14	22%	22%	0
	Getting Weaker	78%	62%	-16	72%	73%	+1
Job Availability	More Jobs	12%	10%	-2	12%	12%	0
	Same Amount	24%	38%	+14	30%	28%	-2
	Fewer Jobs	64%	52%	-12	58%	60%	+2
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	55%	44%	-11	53%	52%	-1
	Neutral	32%	39%	+7	29%	31%	+2
	Not Confident	13%	17%	+4	18%	17%	-1
Future of Current Employer	Confident	57%	49%	-8	63%	65%	+2
	Neutral	25%	29%	+4	22%	22%	0
	Not Confident	18%	22%	+4	14%	14%	0
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	17%	16%	-1	13%	13%	0
	Neutral	10%	13%	+3	10%	9%	-1
	Not Likely	73%	71%	-2	77%	78%	+1
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	30%	36%	+6	35%	35%	0
	Neutral	10%	16%	+6	9%	10%	+1
	Not Likely	60%	48%	-12	55%	54%	-1

About the Spherion Employment Report

As part of the Spherion® Emerging Workforce® Series of employment surveys, the monthly Spherion Employment Report provides a snapshot of the latest workforce trends across the country and is issued in conjunction with state and national labor market releases. Three key indices are measured: the *Spherion Job Security Index*, which captures how likely respondents think it is that they will lose their job or that their job will be eliminated in the next 12 months; the *Spherion Job Transition Index*, which captures how likely respondents are to look for a new job in the next 12 months; and the *Employee Confidence Index*, which measures employees' overall confidence in the economy, the future of their employer, the availability of jobs, and their ability to find other employment. The Employee Confidence Index is based on these four components, with a 'score' calculated for each by taking the difference of the percentage of positive responses and the percentage of negative responses. These four scores are then averaged to indicate an overall level of employee confidence scaled from 0 (no confidence) to 100 (complete confidence). A reading above 50 indicates a positive confidence level.

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Methodology

The April 2008 Spherion® Employment Report was conducted online within the United by Harris Interactive on behalf of Spherion Corporation between April 7 and 9 and April 15 and 17, 2008 among a U.S. sample of 2,836 employed adults, aged 18 years and older, of whom 127 are employed in Florida (for Mar 2008 n=195). Results were weighted as needed for age, sex, race/ethnicity, income, education and region. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the U.S. adult population. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to be invited to participate in the Harris Interactive online research panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

About Spherion

Spherion Corporation (NYSE: SFN) is a leading recruiting and staffing company that provides integrated solutions to meet the evolving needs of companies and job candidates. As an industry pioneer for more than 60 years, Spherion has sourced, screened and placed millions of individuals in temporary, temp-to-hire and full-time jobs.

With approximately 700 locations in the United States and Canada, Spherion delivers innovative workforce solutions that improve business performance. Spherion provides its services to more than 8,000 customers, from Fortune 500 companies to a wide range of small and mid-size organizations. Employing more than 300,000 people annually through its network, Spherion is one of North America's largest employers. Spherion operates under the following brands: Spherion Staffing Services Group for administrative, clerical and light industrial workers; Technisource for technology professionals and solutions; The Mergis Group for accounting and finance and other professional positions; Today's Staffing for specialty administrative personnel; and Spherion Recruitment Process Outsourcing. To learn more, visit <http://www.spherion.com/>.

About Harris Interactive

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