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Ohio Employment Report: Employee Confidence Index Declines; More Than Half of Workers Plan to Look For New Jobs

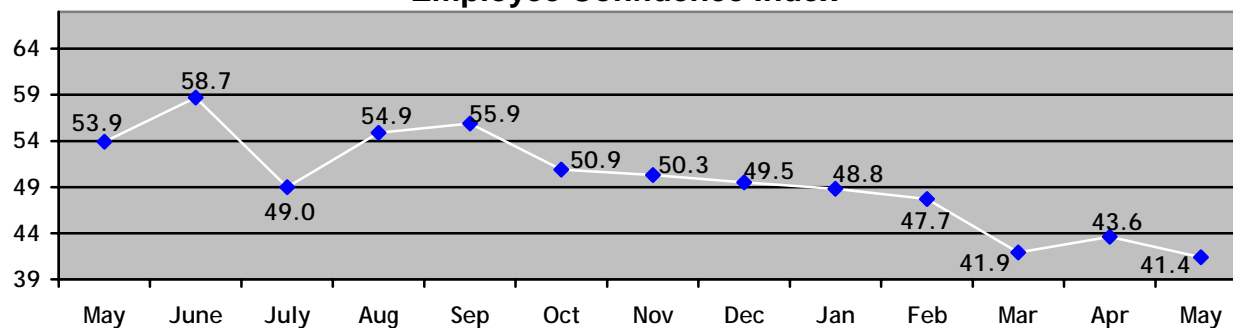
COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 20, 2008 — The Ohio Employee Confidence Index decreased 2.2 points to 41.4 in May, according to the Spherion® Employment Report. The monthly survey conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN), indicates that more workers are likely to look for new jobs in the next 12 months, despite the fact that more workers now believe that fewer jobs are available.

Results from the Ohio Employment Report:

- Fifty-two percent of workers report that it is likely they will look for a new job in the next 12 months, an increase of 24 percentage points from the previous month.
- Nearly seven out of ten workers (69 percent) believe it is unlikely they will lose their jobs in the next year, a decrease of 14 percentage points from April.
- More workers believe that there are fewer jobs available. Specifically, 69 percent of workers believe job availability has decreased, representing a seven-percentage point increase from the previous month.
- Nearly half (47 percent) of workers are confident in their ability to find a new job, a decrease of six percentage points since last month.

“Despite the good news of last month’s Confidence Index rebound, the slight decline in this month’s Index is not completely unexpected,” said Robert Schulte, Spherion franchise owner in Ohio. “Uncertainty in the economy seems to have influenced workers’ confidence levels in Ohio. It is rather interesting to note the contradictory views being expressed by workers. Although more workers believe there are fewer jobs available, more workers report that they are likely to look for new jobs. Workers who are considering to make a job transition should be aware that the dynamics of the job market have changed and that the hiring process is often taking much longer than expected. It is equally important for employers to be aware of the obstacles they may face in motivating top talent to make job transitions, especially those that require relocation or extended commutes.”

Employee Confidence Index



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May 2008 Employment Report Results

		<u>Ohio Workers</u>			<u>U.S. Workers</u>		
		<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>
Economy	Getting Stronger	5%	9%	+4	5%	7%	+2
	Staying Same	19%	16%	-3	22%	22%	0
	Getting Weaker	76%	74%	-2	73%	71%	-2
Job Availability	More Jobs	3%	9%	+6	12%	12%	0
	Same Amount	34%	22%	-12	28%	31%	+3
	Fewer Jobs	62%	69%	+7	60%	58%	-2
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	53%	47%	-6	52%	51%	-1
	Neutral	30%	29%	-1	31%	31%	0
	Not Confident	17%	23%	+6	17%	18%	+1
Future of Current Employer	Confident	56%	50%	-6	65%	64%	-1
	Neutral	32%	32%	0	22%	24%	+2
	Not Confident	13%	17%	+4	14%	12%	-2
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	13%	16%	+3	13%	13%	0
	Neutral	4%	15%	+11	9%	12%	+3
	Not Likely	83%	69%	-14	78%	75%	-3
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	28%	52%	+24	35%	35%	0
	Neutral	9%	6%	-3	10%	11%	+1
	Not Likely	63%	42%	-21	54%	54%	0

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 May 2008 Spherion® Employment Report was conducted online within the United by Harris Interactive on behalf of Spherion Corporation between May 7 and 9 and May 12 and 14, 2008 among a U.S. sample of 2,604 employed adults, aged 18 years and older, of whom 99 are employed in Ohio (for Apr 2008 n=135). 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; Todays Staffing for specialty administrative personnel; and Spherion Recruitment Process Outsourcing. To learn more, visit www.spherion.com.

About Harris Interactive

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