

Employment Report

ILLINOIS



May 2008

Media Contact: Cheryl Hilpert
800-422-3819
cherylhilpert@spherion.com

Illinois Employment Report: Employee Confidence Continues Upward Swing; State Still Leads Midwest In Job Growth

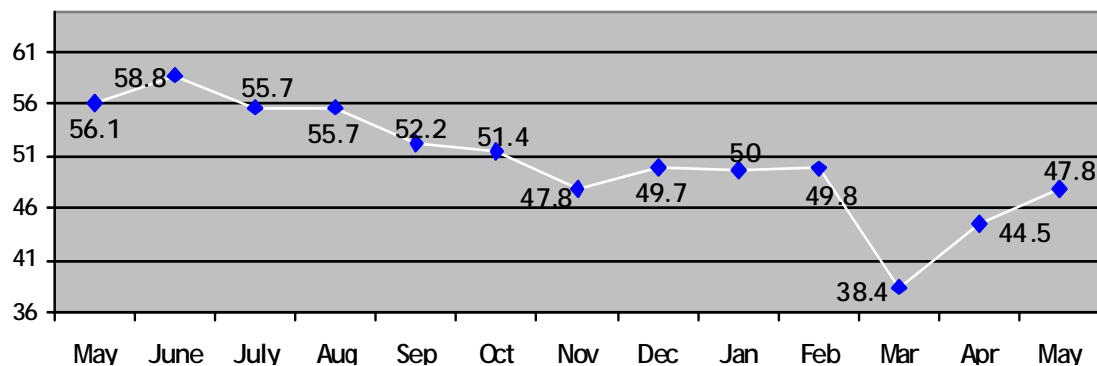
CHICAGO, Ill., June 19, 2008 - The Illinois Employee Confidence Index increased 3.3 points to 47.8 in May, according to the latest Spherion® Employment Report. The monthly survey of Illinois workers, conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN), indicates that fewer workers believe the economy is getting weaker and more workers continue to feel confident about the future of their current employer.

Results from the Illinois Employment Report:

- Sixty-three percent of workers believe the economy is getting weaker compared to 74 percent in April.
- Seventy-two percent of workers report that they are confident about the future of their current employer, an 11 percentage point increase from the previous month.
- Fewer workers are confident about their job prospects, with 43 percent reporting that they are confident in their ability to find a new job, a decrease of 12 percentage points from April.

"Illinois still leads the Midwest in job growth and unemployment is at a record low for this year, so the confidence that workers are showing in the market is not surprising at all," explained Jodie Wood, regional director of Spherion Staffing Services in Illinois. "While our report shows that many workers are comfortable with their current employer's situation and not planning on looking for a new job, for the more than 30 percent who are interested in finding a new employment, there are plenty of opportunities in the administrative and business fields, as well as education and healthcare."

Employee Confidence Index



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May Employment Report Results

		<u>Illinois 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	3%	5%	+2	5%	7%	+2
	Staying Same	23%	32%	+9	22%	22%	0
	Getting Weaker	74%	63%	-11	73%	71%	-2
Job Availability	More Jobs	8%	7%	-1	12%	12%	0
	Same Amount	26%	38%	+12	28%	31%	+3
	Fewer Jobs	66%	55%	-11	60%	58%	-2
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	55%	43%	-12	52%	51%	-1
	Neutral	30%	37%	+7	31%	31%	0
	Not Confident	16%	21%	+5	17%	18%	+1
Future of Current Employer	Confident	61%	72%	+11	65%	64%	-1
	Neutral	24%	21%	-3	22%	24%	+2
	Not Confident	15%	7%	-8	14%	12%	-2
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	20%	8%	-12	13%	13%	0
	Neutral	10%	8%	-2	9%	12%	+3
	Not Likely	71%	83%	+12	78%	75%	-3
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	39%	34%	-5	35%	35%	0
	Neutral	10%	12%	+2	10%	11%	+1
	Not Likely	51%	55%	+4	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 122 are employed in Illinois (for Apr 2008 n=146). 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 www.spherion.com.

About Harris Interactive

Harris Interactive is a global leader in custom market research. With a long and rich history in multimodal research, powered by our science and technology, we assist clients in achieving business results. Harris Interactive serves clients globally through our North American, European and Asian offices and a network of independent market research firms. For more information, please visit www.harrisinteractive.com.

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