

# Employment Report

FLORIDA

spherion

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## Florida Employment Report: Overall Worker Confidence Inches Higher in May; More Workers Confident in the Future of Their Current Employers

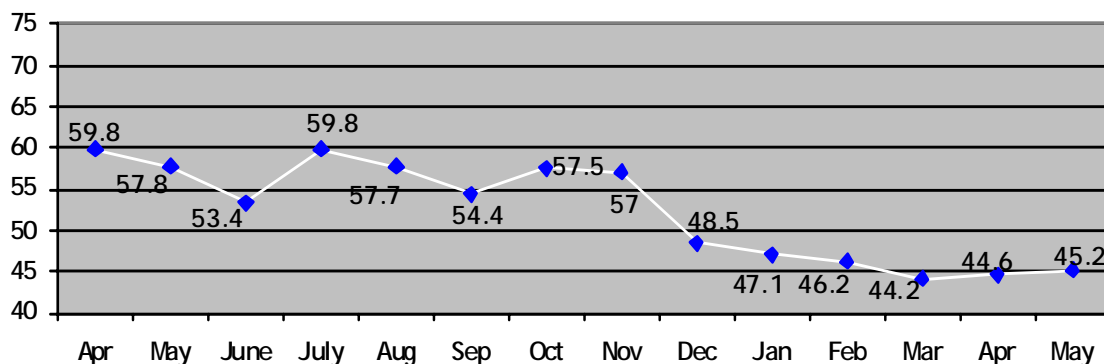
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., June 20, 2008 - The Florida Employee Confidence Index increased 0.6 points to 45.2 in May, according to the latest Spherion® Employment Report. The monthly survey of Florida workers, conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation, reveals that more workers are confident in the future of their current employers. Additionally, the number of workers indicating that they are likely to look for new job rose slightly to nearly 40 percent.

### Results from the Florida Employment Report:

- Thirty-eight percent of workers are likely to look for a new job in the next 12 months, an increase of two percentage points from the previous month.
- Forty-eight percent of workers are optimistic about their ability to find a new job, a rise of four percentage points from April.
- More workers report that they are confident in the future of their current employer, with 63 percent indicating so, an increase of 14 percentage points from the previous month.

"Given the current state of the economy, it's a nice surprise to see that workers' confidence edged up for the second consecutive month," said Paula Franco, branch manager for Spherion Staffing Services in Florida. "We continue to see the demand for flexible and permanent staff remaining steady. Even in today's environment, it is still a challenge to find top talent, especially in customer service, executive administrative and accounting positions. However, we are also finding that the overall hiring process is taking a lot longer. Not only are employers being more choosy, but it takes much more for a passive job seeker to be persuaded. Even though nearly 40 percent plan to look for a new job in the next year, many are hesitant to jump into a new company because of the uncertainty that exists."

### Employee Confidence Index



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## May 2008 Employment Report Results

		Florida Workers			U.S. Workers		
		Apr	May	% Point Change	Apr	May	% Point Change
Economy	Getting Stronger	6%	7%	+1	5%	7%	+2
	Staying Same	33%	23%	-10	22%	22%	0
	Getting Weaker	62%	71%	+9	73%	71%	-2
Job Availability	More Jobs	10%	11%	+1	12%	12%	0
	Same Amount	38%	31%	-7	28%	31%	+3
	Fewer Jobs	52%	59%	+7	60%	58%	-2
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	44%	48%	+4	52%	51%	-1
	Neutral	39%	32%	-7	31%	31%	0
	Not Confident	17%	21%	+4	17%	18%	+1
Future of Current Employer	Confident	49%	63%	+14	65%	64%	-1
	Neutral	29%	20%	-9	22%	24%	+2
	Not Confident	22%	17%	-5	14%	12%	-2
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	16%	19%	+3	13%	13%	0
	Neutral	13%	13%	0	9%	12%	+3
	Not Likely	71%	68%	-3	78%	75%	-3
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	36%	38%	+2	35%	35%	0
	Neutral	16%	5%	-11	10%	11%	+1
	Not Likely	48%	56%	+8	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 126 are employed in Florida (for Apr 2008 n=127). 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](http://www.spherion.com).

### **About Harris Interactive**

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