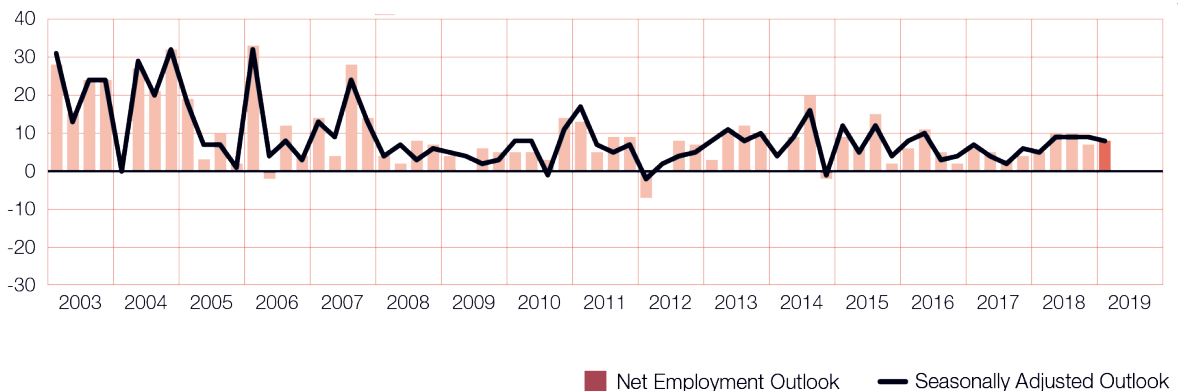


South West employer hiring upbeat for 2019

Employers in the South West will add to their headcount in early 2019. A balance of **+8%** of the region's employers plan to take on more staff in the coming quarter. This compares to a national average of +6%. Hiring plans remain relatively stable when compared with the previous quarter and improve by three percentage points in comparison with Quarter 1 2018.



No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero

MARKET OVERVIEW

Low unemployment and more opportunities than job seekers make this a candidate's market. Where there is a particular shortage of skills such as the driving sector, we're seeing an increase in salaries as employers look to attract and hold onto the best talent.

The larger centres such as Bristol and Plymouth have employers looking for more staff, particularly customer services roles. We've noted a reduction in recruitment from the NHS but expect this to pick up in the new financial year. Some employers are also holding off on their wider investment decisions because of Brexit. When this resolves itself we may see a further pick up in hiring.

As we move into 2019, it is important that employers focus on what their offer to candidates is if they want to attract the best talent: what are the training and progression opportunities, what is the working environment like and can they offer flexible working opportunities.

manpower.co.uk/meos



2019
Q1