

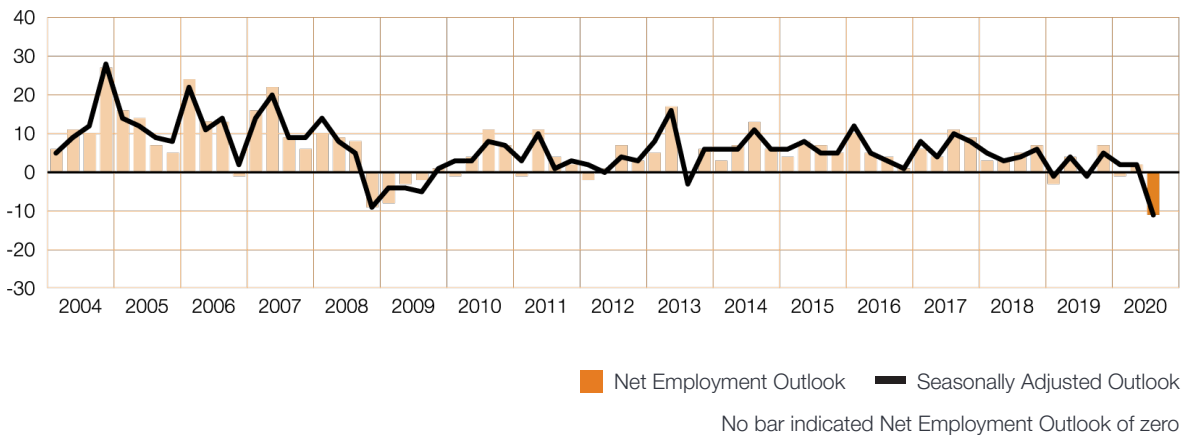


ManpowerGroup®



Hiring prospects down in South East

Dim hiring prospects are reported for the next three months, with employers reporting a Net Employment Outlook of -11%. Hiring plans decline by 13 and 10 percentage points in comparison with Quarter 2 2020 and Quarter 3 2019, respectively.



Q3 2020

MARKET OVERVIEW

A decline in permanent roles has been evident across the South-East, with employers instead looking towards temporary staff to bolster efforts where needed. A rising demand for customer service staff is reported across the region, yet hires are being delayed as many offices and contact centres remain hesitant to reopen. Candidates are showing concern on how safe a return to the workplace is, which is causing issues among some employers in the region, notably in industries like manufacturing.

In total, 55% of employers indicate that their business activity has been suspended amid the lockdown by between 50-100%. Employers in the South-East are the least confident of a swift bounce-back of any UK region, with just 41% expecting hiring levels to return with normal levels by this time next year.