

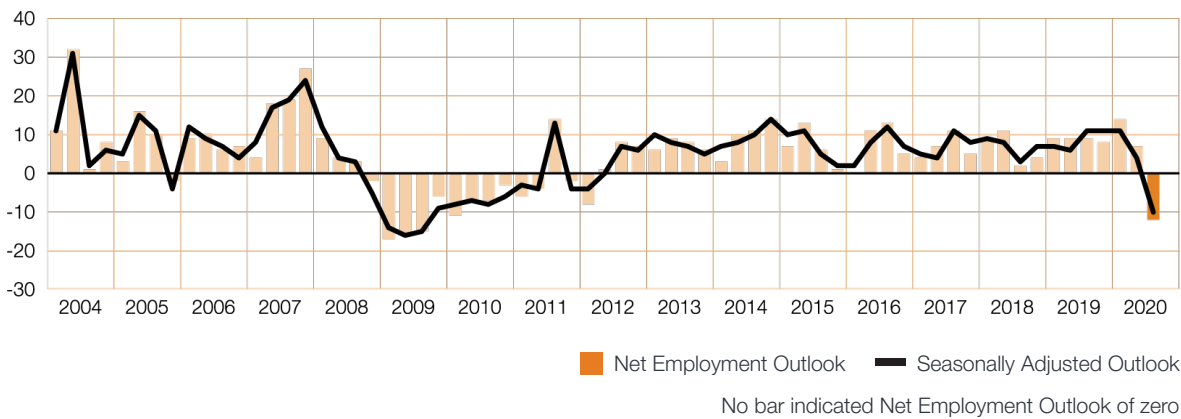


ManpowerGroup®



# Weak hiring pace anticipated in West Midlands

Job seekers can expect the weakest hiring pace in 11 years during the coming quarter, according to employers who report a Net Employment Outlook of -10%. The Outlook is 14 percentage points weaker when compared with the previous quarter and declines by 21 percentage points in comparison with last year at this time.



Q3 2020

## MARKET OVERVIEW

While permanent hiring has been subdued in West Midlands, the region's burgeoning logistics sector has been propping-up hiring activity with temporary hires, with major warehousing and distribution businesses keen for driving and logistics operations skillsets. Candidates' role expectations have lowered over the course of the COVID-19 outbreak, job seekers are more willing to accept roles they are overqualified for the guarantee of an income. Employers who are active in the labour market are getting the pick of the bunch therefore, with many organisations impressed at the talent pools available to them. However, firms who are reliant on supply from abroad have been very quiet on the hiring front.

A considerable 65% of all employers have seen their business activity halted by 50-100% during the COVID-19 outbreak. Worryingly, just 42% believe that regular hiring activity will return to pre-crisis levels within 12 months, the second-most pessimistic of any UK region.