

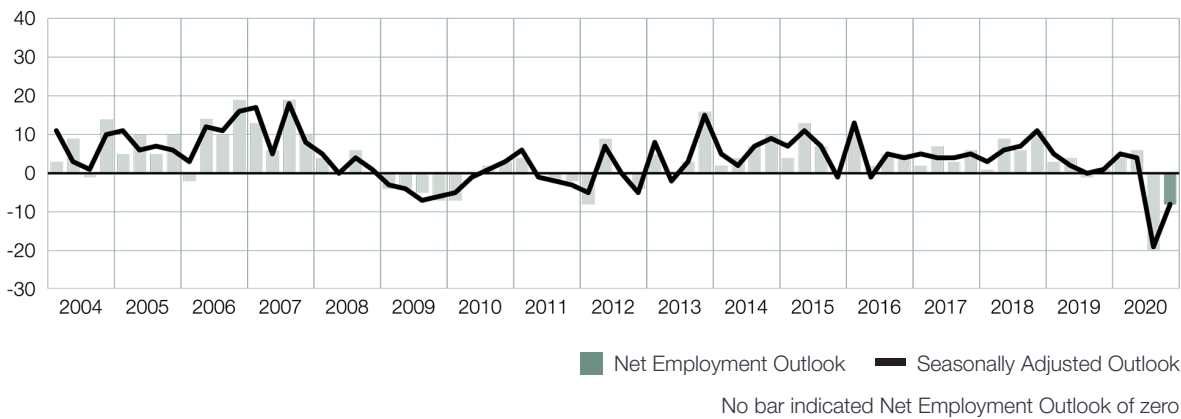


ManpowerGroup®

NORTH WEST

# North West Hiring Intent Improves but Still Negative

Reporting a Net Employment Outlook of -8%, employers forecast sluggish hiring activity in the forthcoming quarter. Hiring intentions improve by 11 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter, but decline by nine percentage points in comparison with this time one year ago.



## MARKET OVERVIEW

With 44% of employers expecting pre-COVID-19 hiring levels to return within 12 months, employers in the North-West are reporting less confidence in a quick return to pre-crisis hiring activity than many other UK regions, falling below the 49% national average. Comparatively, 20% of employers anticipate pre-crisis levels to resume over a three-month timeframe.

A relatively small number of employers are anticipating to overhaul workplace policies as a result of COVID-19. In terms of flexible working, 27% are reporting the intent to offer flexi or condensed hours, 18% will offer the opportunity to work remotely some of the time, and just 5% will offer the chance to work remotely all of the time. A third of employers are intending to offer more health and wellbeing benefits as a result of the crisis, and 24% will offer staff the opportunity to pursue more upskilling and development opportunities.

Q4 2020