

Massachusetts Business Hiring Expectations for the 3rd Quarter 2010

Based on the 2nd Quarter 2010
Massachusetts Job Vacancy Survey



July 2010



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Deval L. Patrick, Governor

Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor

Joanne F. Goldstein, Secretary
Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development
Michael Taylor, Director
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About the data

The Massachusetts Job Vacancy Survey, conducted semiannually by the Department of Workforce Development (DWD), asks a random sample of 10,000 employers a series of questions about their hiring plans.

This report tabulates the responses of the employers to the question, “How will employment at this site change over the next six months?” More than 7,800 employers submitted responses for the current survey round.

The number of responses and the response rate are broken down by region and industry as follows:

Number of Responses and Response Rates by Region

Region	Responses	Sample Size	Response Rate
Total, All Regions	7,836	10,011	78%
Berkshires	392	481	81%
Cape & Islands	484	599	81%
Central Region	774	969	80%
Greater Boston	3282	4289	77%
Northeast Region	1068	1360	79%
Pioneer Valley	781	979	80%
Southeast Region	1055	1334	79%

Number of Responses and Response Rate by Industry

Industry	Responses	Sample Size	Response Rate
Total, All Industries	7,836	10,011	78%
Construction, Mining, Agriculture	472	601	79%
Utilities	136	146	93%
Manufacturing	768	959	80%
Wholesale trade	316	416	76%
Retail trade	896	1,176	76%
Transportation and warehousing	371	422	88%
Information	223	338	66%
Finance and insurance	372	456	82%
Real estate and rental and leasing	154	193	80%
Professional and technical services	593	776	76%
Management of companies and enterprises	191	244	78%
Administrative and waste services	282	370	76%
Educational services	505	635	80%
Health care and social assistance	947	1238	76%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	214	273	78%
Accommodation and food services	761	992	77%
Other services, except public administration	275	354	78%
Public administration	360	422	85%

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Overview

Hiring expectations are gradually improving as the economy recovers from the recession. A net hiring increase of 14 percent is projected for the 3rd quarter of 2010 – up from 7 percent a year ago and 5 percent 6 months ago.

Nineteen percent of employers plan to increase hiring. Five percent plan to cut back. The majority of respondents – 69 percent – plan to maintain their current levels of employment over the next 6 months. Only 7 percent are undecided.

Significant gains were made over the year by Transportation & Warehousing; Information, Professional and Technical Services; Finance and Insurance; Manufacturing; and Wholesale Trade. Each of these industries increased its net hiring projection by 10 percentage points or more.

Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Management; and Utilities are also on the rebound, increasing their respective net hiring projections by 8, 6 and 6 percentage points over the year.

Healthcare, the largest industry in the state, increased its net hiring projection by a modest 4 percentage points over the year.

Retail Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; and Accommodation & Food Services decreased their respective net hiring projections by 1, 4 and 3 percentage points over the year.

Among the state's 7 regions, Greater Boston, the Northeast Region, and the Pioneer Valley all increased their net hiring projections by 8 percentage points or more over the year while the Central Region increased its net hiring projection by 6 percentage points.

The Berkshires and the Southeast Region lowered their respective net hiring projections by 3 and 2 percentage points over the year. But the Cape & Islands held steady with a net hiring projection of 17 percent.

Hiring Expectations by Industry

Every industry except education has a positive net hiring projection for the 3d quarter of 2010. Education has a negative projection of 6 percent.

Though battered by the recession, Construction has a net hiring projection of 15 percent, up from 7 percent a year ago. Manufacturing follows closely with a net hiring projection of 14 percent, up from 2 percent a year ago.

Transportation & Warehousing leads all industries with a net hiring projection of 25 percent, up from 6 percent a year ago. Professional and Technical Services, a driving force in the Massachusetts economy, is second with a net hiring projection of 21 percent, up from 8 percent a year ago.

Healthcare & Social Assistance, the largest industry in the state, remains stable with its net hiring projection rising from 8 to 12 percent over the year.

Finance and Insurance, whose problems triggered the recession, recorded a net hiring projection of 16 percent, up from 3 percent a year ago and 7 percent 6 months ago.

Retail trade is down a percentage point from last year but remains strong with a net hiring projection of 17 percent.

Information, with a net hiring projection of 14 percent, is up 16 percentage points over the year and 8 percentage points over the last 6 months. The gains were driven by Newspaper Publishers, Periodical Publishers, Software Publishers and Libraries, which increased their net hiring projections by 19, 21, 16 and 9 percentage points, respectively, over the year.

Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, with a net hiring projection of 12 percent, is down 4 percentage points over the year while Accommodation & Food Services, at 18 percent, is down 3 percentage points.

Hiring Expectations by Region

Berkshires – Projected net hiring fell from 14 to 11 percent over the year. This was caused primarily by declines in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Healthcare and Education.

Cape & Islands – Projected net hiring remained the same as the year before at 17 percent.

Central Region – Projected net hiring rose from 3 to 9 percent over the year.

Greater Boston – Projected net hiring in the state's largest employment center rose from 7 to 16 percent over the year. Finance and Insurance and Public Administration – industries that play a major role in the economy of Greater Boston - increased their net hiring projections by 18 and 8 percentage points, respectively.

Northeast Region – Projected net hiring rose from 3 to 14 percent over the year.

Pioneer Valley – Projected net hiring rose from 5 to 13 percent over the year.

Southeast Region – Projected net hiring fell from 11 to 9 percent over the year, primarily as a result of losses in Retail Trade, Information and Educational Services.

Table 1. Industry Hiring Expectations

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	19%	69%	5%	7%	14%
Mining	13%	61%	4%	22%	9%
Utilities	8%	83%	0%	9%	8%
Construction	20%	62%	6%	12%	15%
Manufacturing	20%	66%	5%	8%	14%
Wholesale Trade	19%	72%	3%	6%	16%
Retail Trade	21%	65%	5%	10%	17%
Transportation & Warehousing	30%	55%	5%	10%	25%
Information	18%	73%	5%	4%	14%
Finance & Insurance	17%	75%	2%	6%	16%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	18%	73%	3%	6%	14%
Professional & Technical Services	25%	66%	4%	5%	21%
Management	18%	72%	3%	7%	15%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	19%	72%	5%	5%	15%
Educational Services	4%	78%	10%	8%	-6%
Healthcare	14%	77%	2%	7%	12%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	23%	63%	11%	2%	12%
Accommodation & Food Services	23%	64%	6%	7%	18%
Other Services	17%	74%	6%	3%	11%
Public Administration	10%	83%	4%	3%	6%

*Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 2. Regional Hiring Expectations

Area	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Regions	19%	69%	5%	7%	14%
Berkshires	17%	70%	6%	7%	11%
Cape & Islands	24%	65%	7%	5%	17%
Central Region	15%	70%	7%	8%	9%
Greater Boston	20%	70%	4%	6%	16%
Northeast Region	18%	70%	4%	8%	14%
Pioneer Valley	18%	69%	5%	9%	13%
Southeast Region	16%	69%	7%	9%	9%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 3. Hiring Expectations in the Berkshires

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	17%	70%	6%	7%	11%
Mining	33%	33%	0%	33%	33%
Utilities	0%	88%	0%	13%	0%
Construction	29%	53%	6%	12%	24%
Manufacturing	10%	71%	10%	10%	0%
Wholesale Trade	14%	86%	0%	0%	14%
Retail Trade	15%	75%	0%	10%	15%
Transportation & Warehousing	30%	56%	4%	11%	26%
Information	13%	73%	13%	0%	0%
Finance & Insurance	21%	79%	0%	0%	21%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	15%	69%	8%	8%	8%
Professional & Technical Services	15%	85%	0%	0%	15%
Management	25%	75%	0%	0%	25%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	13%	67%	13%	7%	0%
Educational Services	4%	78%	15%	4%	-11%
Healthcare	13%	77%	7%	3%	7%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	30%	55%	15%	0%	15%
Accommodation & Food Services	28%	60%	0%	12%	28%
Other Services	22%	78%	0%	0%	22%
Public Administration	17%	78%	0%	6%	17%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 4. Hiring Expectations in the Cape and Islands

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	24%	65%	7%	5%	17%
Mining	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%
Utilities	13%	80%	0%	7%	13%
Construction	16%	63%	5%	16%	11%
Manufacturing	28%	63%	7%	2%	21%
Wholesale Trade	38%	54%	0%	8%	38%
Retail Trade	39%	49%	12%	0%	27%
Transportation & Warehousing	32%	57%	3%	8%	30%
Information	8%	92%	0%	0%	8%
Finance & Insurance	6%	88%	0%	6%	6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	25%	75%	0%	0%	25%
Professional & Technical Services	22%	67%	6%	6%	17%
Management	10%	80%	10%	0%	0%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	6%	76%	18%	0%	-12%
Educational Services	3%	77%	7%	13%	-3%
Healthcare	18%	79%	0%	3%	18%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	20%	60%	20%	0%	0%
Accommodation & Food Services	34%	51%	6%	9%	29%
Other Services	28%	61%	11%	0%	17%
Public Administration	5%	84%	11%	0%	-5%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 5. Hiring Expectations in the Central Region

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	15%	70%	7%	8%	9%
Mining	10%	50%	20%	20%	-10%
Utilities	0%	95%	0%	5%	0%
Construction	23%	61%	3%	13%	19%
Manufacturing	20%	71%	3%	6%	17%
Wholesale Trade	11%	82%	4%	4%	7%
Retail Trade	14%	74%	4%	7%	10%
Transportation & Warehousing	24%	51%	7%	18%	18%
Information	18%	76%	6%	0%	12%
Finance & Insurance	7%	81%	4%	7%	4%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	15%	62%	0%	23%	15%
Professional & Technical Services	9%	70%	13%	9%	-4%
Management	17%	67%	4%	13%	13%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	5%	74%	11%	11%	-5%
Educational Services	3%	72%	15%	9%	-12%
Healthcare	14%	73%	6%	6%	8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	24%	57%	14%	5%	10%
Accommodation & Food Services	24%	56%	14%	7%	10%
Other Services	5%	90%	0%	5%	5%
Public Administration	21%	72%	5%	2%	16%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 6. Hiring Expectations in Greater Boston

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	20%	70%	4%	6%	16%
Mining	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Utilities	20%	70%	0%	10%	20%
Construction	22%	61%	6%	12%	16%
Manufacturing	23%	62%	6%	8%	17%
Wholesale Trade	20%	73%	3%	4%	18%
Retail Trade	20%	68%	3%	9%	17%
Transportation & Warehousing	35%	51%	6%	8%	29%
Information	22%	72%	3%	3%	20%
Finance & Insurance	22%	70%	1%	6%	21%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	16%	77%	3%	3%	13%
Professional & Technical Services	26%	66%	3%	5%	23%
Management	19%	75%	0%	5%	19%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	22%	72%	1%	5%	21%
Educational Services	5%	86%	3%	5%	2%
Healthcare	13%	77%	1%	9%	12%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	27%	61%	8%	4%	19%
Accommodation & Food Services	21%	67%	5%	7%	16%
Other Services	13%	77%	8%	3%	5%
Public Administration	11%	81%	4%	3%	7%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 7. Hiring Expectations in the Northeast

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	18%	70%	4%	8%	14%
Mining	25%	50%	0%	25%	25%
Utilities	5%	85%	0%	10%	5%
Construction	21%	64%	4%	11%	17%
Manufacturing	17%	67%	5%	11%	12%
Wholesale Trade	24%	66%	2%	7%	22%
Retail Trade	27%	54%	5%	14%	21%
Transportation & Warehousing	41%	41%	6%	12%	35%
Information	28%	60%	0%	12%	28%
Finance & Insurance	6%	88%	0%	6%	6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	12%	76%	6%	6%	6%
Professional & Technical Services	19%	75%	3%	3%	17%
Management	19%	69%	4%	8%	15%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	20%	70%	3%	7%	17%
Educational Services	4%	81%	13%	1%	-9%
Healthcare	13%	79%	2%	6%	11%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	19%	69%	12%	0%	8%
Accommodation & Food Services	24%	70%	2%	4%	22%
Other Services	21%	71%	5%	3%	16%
Public Administration	0%	91%	4%	4%	-4%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 8. Hiring Expectations in the Pioneer Valley

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All Industries	18%	69%	5%	9%	13%
Mining	13%	50%	0%	38%	13%
Utilities	10%	80%	0%	10%	10%
Construction	11%	85%	0%	4%	11%
Manufacturing	26%	60%	5%	10%	20%
Wholesale Trade	17%	67%	0%	17%	17%
Retail Trade	20%	64%	5%	12%	15%
Transportation & Warehousing	18%	71%	2%	10%	16%
Information	0%	90%	5%	5%	-5%
Finance & Insurance	11%	70%	7%	11%	4%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	28%	56%	0%	17%	28%
Professional & Technical Services	40%	52%	4%	4%	36%
Management	18%	68%	9%	5%	9%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	26%	63%	11%	0%	16%
Educational Services	5%	67%	13%	15%	-8%
Healthcare	18%	76%	1%	4%	18%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13%	78%	9%	0%	4%
Accommodation & Food Services	15%	68%	8%	9%	8%
Other Services	21%	68%	4%	7%	18%
Public Administration	9%	85%	0%	6%	9%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease

Table 9. Hiring Expectations in the Southeast

Industry Name	Increase	Same	Decrease	Not Sure	Net Hiring Outlook*
Total, All industries	16%	69%	7%	9%	9%
Mining	22%	56%	0%	22%	22%
Utilities	0%	91%	0%	9%	0%
Construction	19%	54%	13%	13%	6%
Manufacturing	16%	71%	6%	8%	10%
Wholesale Trade	15%	70%	6%	9%	9%
Retail Trade	17%	66%	6%	11%	12%
Transportation & Warehousing	26%	62%	4%	8%	22%
Information	12%	65%	18%	6%	-6%
Finance & Insurance	9%	84%	0%	6%	9%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	13%	80%	7%	0%	7%
Professional & Technical Services	21%	59%	10%	10%	10%
Management	18%	68%	4%	11%	14%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	19%	74%	4%	4%	15%
Educational Services	2%	66%	19%	14%	-17%
Healthcare	11%	75%	3%	11%	8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	24%	62%	10%	3%	14%
Accommodation & Food Services	27%	62%	7%	5%	20%
Other Services	24%	67%	6%	3%	18%
Public Administration	6%	88%	6%	0%	0%

* Percentage of employers projecting an increase minus the percentage projecting a decrease



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