

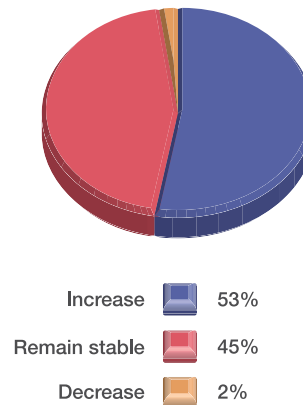
Michael Page Employment Index

Employment market forecast for Hong Kong & Southern China, May 2010

Summary of key findings

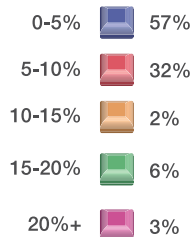
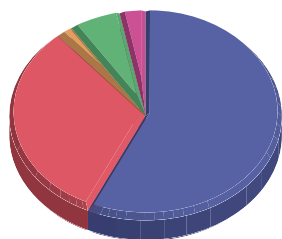
- 53% of companies surveyed are increasing their staff numbers in May, with 45% maintaining existing levels and 2% anticipating a decrease.
- Of the companies recruiting new staff in May, 52% are recruiting for front line positions across functions such as sales and account management. The majority are hiring mid-level roles.
- 65% of the employers surveyed confirmed they would be increasing staff salary levels during the 2010 calendar year. The most common salary increase was 2-4%, followed by the 4-6% salary bracket.
- Staff retention was becoming an issue for 76% of respondents, with half of the companies surveyed expressing concern over the succession plans in place.

Predicted staff numbers for May.

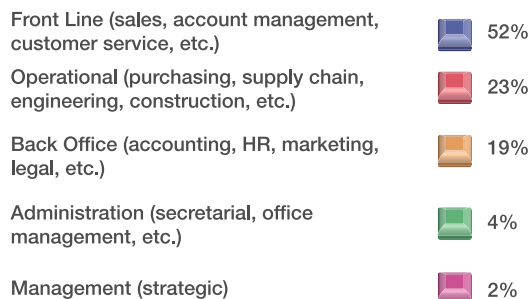
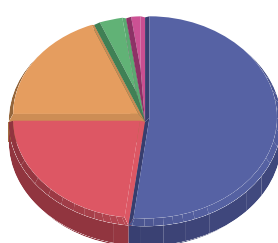


Companies planning to increase headcount next month

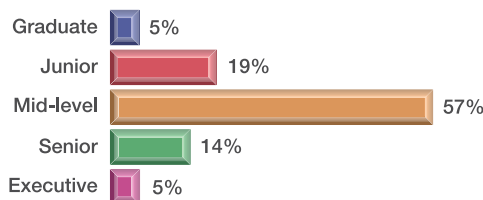
Anticipated headcount increase.



Hiring focus by business function.

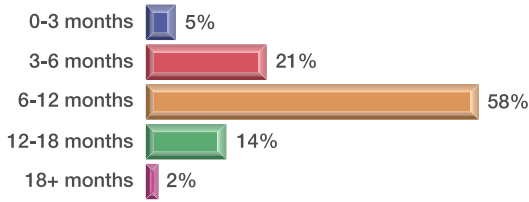


Hiring focus by level of experience.

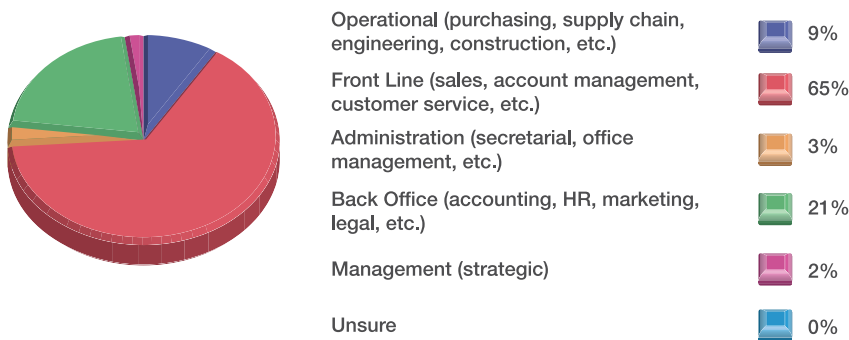


Companies maintaining current staffing levels next month

When do you anticipate increasing headcount again?

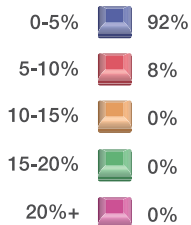
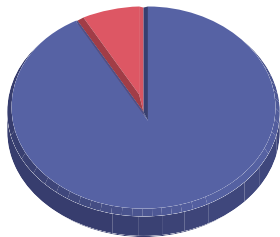


Anticipated hiring focus by business function.

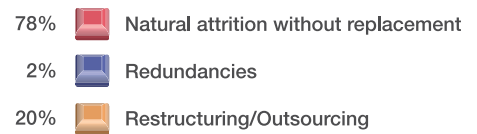
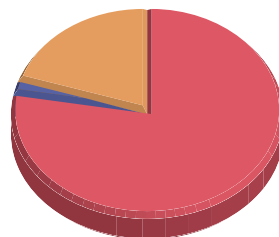


Companies decreasing headcount next month

Anticipated headcount decrease.

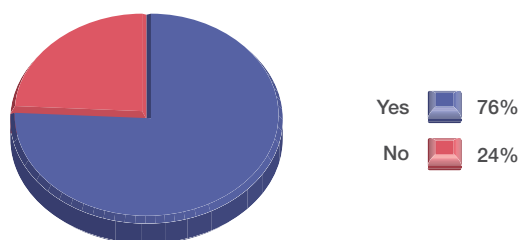


Main reason for headcount reduction.

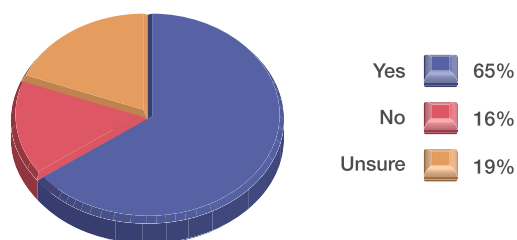


Topical Issues

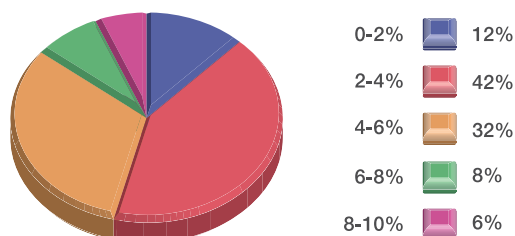
Is staff retention becoming an issue for you as the market improves?



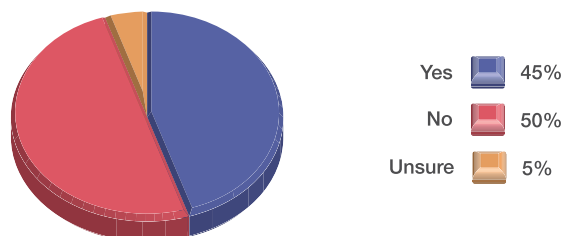
Are you intending to increase employee salaries in the 2010 calendar year?



What will the average percentage salary increase be?



Are you confident that you have effective succession planning mechanisms in place?



About the Michael Page Employment Index

The Michael Page Employment Index provides a snapshot of hiring and business confidence trends for the employment market in Hong Kong and Southern China. The report is predictive and focuses on anticipated trends for the month ahead, rather than an analysis of historical employment data such as job advertisement numbers. The online survey is distributed monthly to a group of more than 100 executive level human resources professionals and hiring managers who have agreed to participate in the research.

About Michael Page International

Michael Page International is a leading professional recruitment consultancy specialising in the recruitment of permanent, contract and temporary positions on behalf of the world's top employers. The Group operates through 142 offices in 28 countries and has 3,702 employees worldwide.

First established in London in 1976, we've been bringing job seekers and employers together for more than 30 years. We opened our first office in Hong Kong in 1994 and currently have offices in Hong Kong, Kowloon, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Beijing, Singapore and Tokyo.

Do you have employment questions you want answered?

If you have any feedback on the Michael Page Employment Index or suggested questions for future surveys, please contact us via email at employmentindex@michaelpage.com.hk