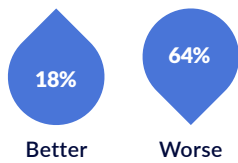


Business sentiment on the turn as economy opens

Confidence

Do you think economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting...



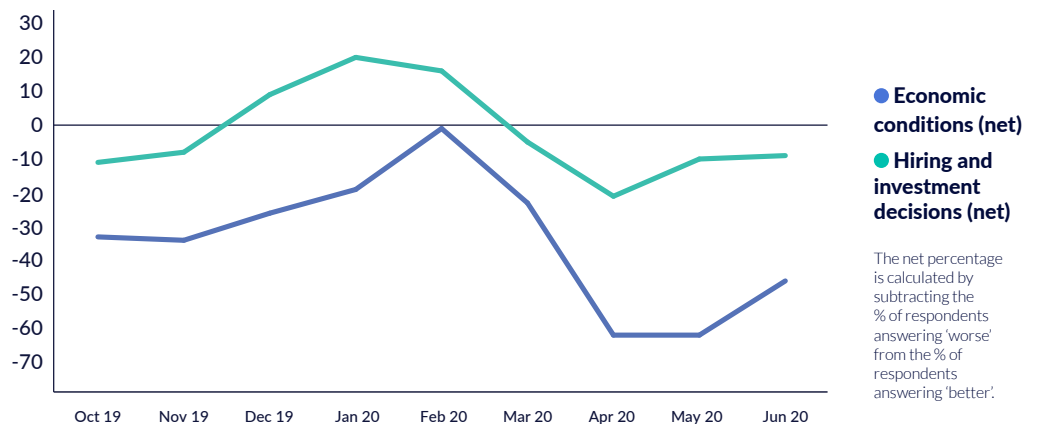
In view of the economic conditions, do you/does your organisation expect confidence in hiring and investment decisions to get...



All involved in hiring (n=200).

In the first half of June, employer confidence in the prospects for the UK economy was at net: -46. This is a notable improvement of 17 percentage points from May (net: -62). Confidence levels were highest in large (250+ employee) firms, at net: -34, and lowest amongst micro and small (0-49 employee) businesses, at net: -52.

Employers' confidence in making hiring and investment decisions remained almost unchanged compared with May, at net: -9. Regionally, employers in the South (excluding London) were the most positive overall, at net: +9.



Key points from June survey

1 Confidence in the economy improves




At net: -46, employer confidence in the economy improved by 17 percentage points between May and June.

2 Short-term demand for permanent staff returns to positive



Employers' intentions to hire permanent staff in the short term (over the next three months) improved by 11 percentage points from May, and returned to positive territory at net: +6.

3 Medium-term demand for permanent staff improves




Similarly, employers' intentions to hire permanent staff in the medium term (over the next 4-12 months) increased by nine percentage points between May and June, to net: +15.

4 Sectors with high demand for permanent staff




Demand for permanent Health & social care staff was high in both the short term and medium term, at net: +44 and net: +52, respectively. In the medium term, demand for Industrial (net: +53) and Construction (net: +30) workers was also high.

5 Demand for temporary agency workers increases



Indicative hiring intentions for temporary staff in the short term and medium term improved in June and are in positive territory.

6 Fewer businesses with spare workforce capacity



Three in four (75%) employers said that they had little or no spare capacity in their workforce in June, up from 63% in May.

Savanta ComRes interviewed 200 UK employers involved in hiring between 2-16 June 2020. Data were weighted to be representative of UK adults in employment by region, broad industry sector and public/private split. Savanta ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.