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Texas Employee Confidence Reaches New High for 2006

- o *More workers feel the economy is getting stronger*
- o *More workers believe more jobs are available*
- o *One in three workers are likely to search for a new job*

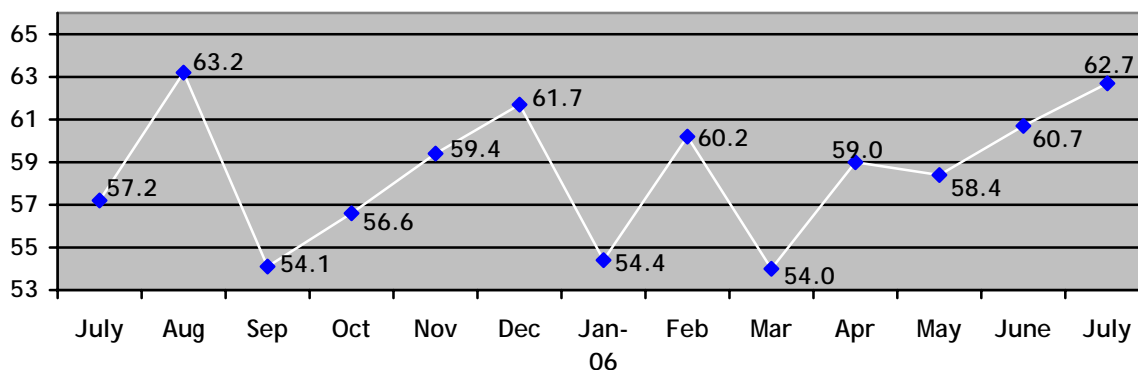
DALLAS, Texas - August 16, 2006 — The Texas Employee Confidence Index reached 62.7 in July, eclipsing June's record high for 2006 by two points. The Texas Spherion® Employment Report, a monthly survey conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN), increased primarily because more workers reported optimism in the strength of the economy and in job availability.

In addition, 86 percent of workers believe it is unlikely that they will lose their job in the next year, a five-percentage-point increase from June. Despite more workers feeling secure in their jobs, one in three workers (33 percent) indicated that they are likely to look for a new job in the next year.

"Texas job seekers are benefiting from a strengthening economy and an increasing demand for candidates in a variety of industries," said Julie Van Wormer, vice president for Spherion in Texas. "Given the demand for qualified workers, we continue to advise employers to pay closer attention to retention efforts and expand on their package of perks in order to attract top candidates—such as recruiting from larger candidate pools, offering bonuses and other incentives, as well as offering training and development programs and flexible work-life balance choices."

Employee Confidence Index: The overall Texas Employee Confidence Index was 62.7 in July, up two points from June and 5.5 percentage points from July 2005. The Index, which measures adult workers' confidence in their personal employment situation and the macroeconomic environment, increased because more workers reported confidence in the availability of jobs and the strength of the economy.

Employee Confidence Index



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July 2006 Employment Report Results

		<u>Texas Workers</u>			<u>U.S. Workers</u>		
		<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>
Economy	Getting stronger	24%	31%	+7%	19%	23%	+ 4%
	Staying same	38%	29%	-9%	38%	33%	-5%
	Getting weaker	38%	41%	+3%	43%	44%	+1%
Job Availability	More jobs	28%	33%	+5%	24%	25%	+1%
	Same amount	37%	35%	-2%	37%	36%	-1%
	Fewer jobs	35%	32%	-3%	39%	38%	-1%
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	57%	57%	0%	56%	57%	+1%
	Neutral	27%	32%	+5%	29%	28%	-1%
	Not confident	16%	12%	-4%	16%	15%	-1%
Future of Current Employer	Confident	74%	70%	-4%	65%	65%	0%
	Neutral	18%	25%	+7%	22%	24%	+2%
	Not confident	8%	5%	-3%	13%	12%	-1%
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	5%	10%	+5%	11%	12%	+1%
	Neutral	14%	5%	-9%	11%	9%	-2%
	Not likely	81%	86%	+5%	78%	79%	+1%
Look for New Job	Likely	33%	33%	0%	36%	35%	-1%
	Neutral	14%	5%	-9%	10%	10%	0%
	Not likely	53%	62%	+9%	54%	55%	+1%

About the Spherion Employment Report

As part of the [Spherion® Emerging Workforce®](#) Series of employment surveys, the monthly Spherion Employment Report provides a snapshot of the latest workforce trends across the country and is issued in conjunction with state and national labor market releases. Three key indices are measured: the Spherion *Job Security Index*, which captures how likely respondents think it is that they will lose their job or that their job will be eliminated in the next 12 months; the Spherion *Job Transition Index*, which captures how likely respondents are to look for a new job in the next 12 months; and the *Employee Confidence Index*, which measures employees' overall confidence in the economy, the future of their employer, the availability of jobs, and their ability to find other employment. The Employee Confidence Index is based on these four components, with a score calculated for each by taking the difference of the percentage of positive responses and the percentage of negative responses. These four scores are then averaged to indicate an overall level of employee confidence scaled from 0 (no confidence) to 100 (complete confidence). A reading above 50 indicates a positive confidence level.

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Methodology

The July 2006 Spherion® Employment Report is based on data from a Harris Interactive® QuickQuerySM online omnibus conducted monthly on behalf of Spherion Corporation. A U.S. sample of 2,836 employed adults, aged 18 years and older, of whom 183 are employed in Texas (for June 2006 n=184), was interviewed in a series of two polls conducted between July 5-7 and July 11-13, 2006. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, income, education and region were weighted where necessary to bring them in line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting adjusted for respondents' propensity to be online.

With pure probability samples, with 100 percent response rates, it is possible to calculate the probability that the sampling error (but not other sources of error) is not greater than some number. With a pure probability sample of 2,836 U.S. employed adults one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/- two percentage points, and the sampling error for the Texas state sample results is plus or minus seven percentage points. However, that does not take other sources of error into account. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

About Spherion

Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN) is a leading recruiting and staffing company that provides integrated solutions to meet the evolving needs of companies and job candidates. As an industry pioneer for 60 years, Spherion has screened and placed millions of individuals in temporary, temp-to-hire and full-time jobs. Positions range from administrative and light industrial to a host of professions that include accounting/finance, information technology, engineering, manufacturing, legal, human resources and sales/marketing.

With approximately 650 offices in the United States and Canada, Spherion delivers innovative workforce solutions that improve business performance. Spherion provides its services to more than 8,000 customers, from Fortune 500 companies to a wide range of small and mid-size organizations. Employing 375,000 people annually through its network, Spherion is one of North America's largest employers. To learn more, visit www.spherion.com.

About Harris Interactive

Harris Interactive is the 12th largest and fastest-growing market research firm in the world. The company provides research-driven insights and strategic advice to help its clients make more confident decisions which lead to measurable and enduring improvements in performance. Harris Interactive is widely known for *The Harris Poll*, one of the longest running, independent opinion polls and for pioneering online market research methods. The company has built what could conceivably be the world's largest panel of survey respondents, the Harris Poll Online. Harris Interactive serves clients worldwide through its United States, Europe and Asia offices, its wholly-owned subsidiary Novatris in France and through a global network of independent market research firms. The service bureau, HISB, provides its market research industry clients with mixed-mode data collection, panel development services as well as syndicated and tracking research consultation. More information about Harris Interactive may be obtained at www.harrisinteractive.com.

To become a member of the Harris Poll Online, visit www.harrispollonline.com.

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