

*For Immediate Release*

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## U.S. Labor Market Gaining Momentum

### *Hudson Employment Index<sup>SM</sup> rises in April*

**New York, May 5, 2004** – The *Hudson Employment Index<sup>SM</sup>* rose to 107.1 in April, its highest level this year. The rise from 106.8 in March and a baseline of 100.0 in January signals mounting optimism about the job market in the U.S. The *Index* measures employee attitudes on critical work issues.

One-third of the 9,467 workers surveyed this month say their employers are hiring, a 13% increase from the start of the year. Jeff Anderson, senior vice president of Hudson Global Resources, said, “The *Index* clearly reflects the gaining momentum of the labor market. We see it in our business, too, as job orders and candidate interview requests are rising.”

Overall, the number of employees who report that their companies are adding jobs is at its highest level of the year (see chart). Private-sector employees are the most bullish about the job market. The number who reported hiring by their companies rose to 39 percent, a 22 percent increase since December of last year. Managers are more optimistic than workers, with 35 percent of those polled saying their companies are adding people versus 33 percent for workers.

**Percentage of respondents who say their companies are hiring in coming months.**

	<b>Dec 03</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>
<b>All Workers</b>	29	31	31	33	33
<b>Private-Sector Employees</b>	32	36	36	38	39
<b>Managers</b>	32	33	32	35	35

The vast majority of workers do not appear to be worried about losing their jobs. Seventy-six (76) percent say they have no concerns about getting laid off.

Hudson, one of the world's leading professional staffing, outsourcing and human capital solution providers, publishes the *Hudson Employment Index*, the first monthly measure of employee attitudes on critical work issues, including career opportunities, job satisfaction and workplace performance. Next month's *Hudson Employment Index* will be released on June 2, 2004.

## **The Hudson Employment Index**

The *Hudson Employment Index* (Hudson-Index.com) measures employee attitudes on critical work issues, including career opportunities, job satisfaction and workplace performance. The *Index* is compiled each month by Rasmussen Reports, LLC, an independent research firm, based upon telephone interviews and survey responses from approximately 9,000 U.S. workers (RasmussenReports.com).

Data reported in this release is based upon a national telephone survey of 9,467 working Americans during the month of March. The margin of sampling error for a survey based upon this many interviews is approximately 1 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence. The data is not seasonally adjusted. It will be reviewed at year-end to determine if seasonal adjustments are appropriate.

The *Hudson Employment Index* is a service mark owned by Hudson Highland Group, Inc.

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