

For Immediate Release

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Hudson Employment IndexSM Declines in May

Monthly Measure of Employee Attitudes decreases to 104.8

New York, June 2, 2004 – The *Hudson Employment IndexSM* in May declined to 104.8 from 107.1 the previous month. This is the *Index's* lowest reading this year, although it remains up nearly five percent over December 2003. The *Index* measures the U.S. workforce's confidence in the employment market.

Overall, the number of employees who report that their companies are adding jobs is at 32 percent, down a single point from both March and April (see chart). The percentage of managers who say their firms are hiring also dropped two points to 33 percent over this period. Also, the number of workers worried about losing their jobs inched up to 19 percent, as compared to 18 percent last month.

Percentage of respondents who say their companies will hire in coming months.

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

“Collectively, the trend data over recent months suggests a labor market that may be taking a breather in May after gaining momentum since the beginning of the year,” said Jeff Anderson, senior vice president of Hudson Global Resources.

Even though the percentage of workers saying their firms are hiring fell following the steady increase through the early months of the year, these figures still remain higher than they were in December and

January. In addition, private-sector employees continued to be optimistic about the job market. The number who reported hiring by their companies remained steady at 39 percent.

Hudson, one of the world's leading professional staffing, outsourcing and human capital solution providers, publishes the *Hudson Employment Index*, a monthly measure of the U.S. workforce's confidence in the employment market. Next month's *Hudson Employment Index* will be released on June 30, 2004.

The Hudson Employment Index

The *Hudson Employment Index* (Hudson-Index.com) measures the U.S. workforce's confidence in the employment market. Based upon monthly telephone surveys with approximately 9,000 U.S. workers, the *Index* tracks aggregate employment trends around career opportunities, hiring intentions, job satisfaction and retention. The *Index* is compiled each month by Rasmussen Reports, LLC, an independent research firm (RasmussenReports.com).

Data reported in this release is based upon a national telephone survey of 9,023 working Americans during the month of May. 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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