

For Immediate Release

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Hudson Employment IndexSM Hits Another New High

Monthly Measure of Employee Confidence Climbs to 108.4 in July

New York, August 4, 2004 – The *Hudson Employment IndexSM* continued its ascent in July, reaching a record high of 108.4 for the year and surpassing all previous ratings for the second month in a row. The increase in the *Index* over the last couple of months indicates that the outlook for the employment market is firmly upbeat among U.S. workers. The *Index* posted an increase of .5 points, from 107.9 last month.

Workers continued to report confidence in their personal financial situations despite a slight drop in the hiring they anticipate at their companies. Forty-five percent of workers now say their personal finances are getting better. That’s an improvement from 43 percent a month ago and 40 percent the month before. The percentage of workers reporting hiring at their companies fell just one point from June to 33 percent. This figure has held relatively steady since the end of the first quarter. The percentage of managers who say their companies are hiring fell two points to 34 percent from last month’s reading which was the highest of the year.

“U.S. workers continue to be optimistic about their personal finances and are confident that their employers have steady hiring plans. Based on the momentum in employee confidence that we have seen in the last six months, this is positive news, even in the midst of the traditionally slow hiring season,” said Jeff Anderson, senior vice president of Hudson Global Resources.

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

	Dec '03	Jan '04	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
All Workers	29	31	31	33	33	32	34	33
Managers	32	33	32	35	35	33	36	34
Private-Sector Employees	32	36	36	38	39	39	39	39

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 September 1, 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 8,854 working Americans during the month of June. 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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Hudson is a division of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: HHGP) one of the world's leading professional staffing, retained executive search and human capital solution providers. More information is available at Hudson.com.

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