



Vacancies rise at the fastest rate for 17 months



Latest News

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According to the latest Report on Jobs, released by The Recruitment and Employment Confederation (REC) and KPMG permanent vacancies has risen at the fastest rate for 17 months.

Temporary placements

Temporary agency work increased for the third month running in October. Moreover, the rate of growth accelerated to the sharpest for one-and-a-half years.

Slight rise in candidate availability

The availability of permanent staff continued to rise in October, although the rate of growth eased to a five-month low and was modest overall. Temporary agency worker availability increased at the weakest rate in the current 55-month period of growth.

Regional and sector variation

Growth of permanent placements was broad-based across all English regions in October, with the sharpest expansion recorded in the North. The South and Midlands both saw faster increases in placements, while London registered a return to growth following eight months of contraction. Private sector workers saw a further rise in demand for their services during October although, for both permanent and temporary staff, rates of expansion were slower than one month previously. Public sector demand for permanent staff continued to fall in October, albeit at a slower pace, while public sector temporary vacancies rose slightly for the first time in the 11-month series history.

Recruitment and Employment Confederation chief executive Kevin Green says: "This is exciting news from the labour market. The positive performance we've seen from the UK jobs market over the past year is accelerating, with increases in the number of people placed into both temporary and permanent work last month. The sharpest rise in job vacancies in over a year shows employers are confident about their own businesses and, as they deal with increasing demand, are driving the momentum for more people finding work. We've now seen rises in the number of workers placed into temporary jobs for three months in a row. This is a sure sign British bosses understand the business case for using a flexible workforce to handle fluctuating demand and costs effectively. More people engaging in flexible work is a trend that's going to increase in our post-recession economy."