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## Texas Employment Report: After Reaching Highest Level in 2007, Employee Confidence Takes a Dip in August

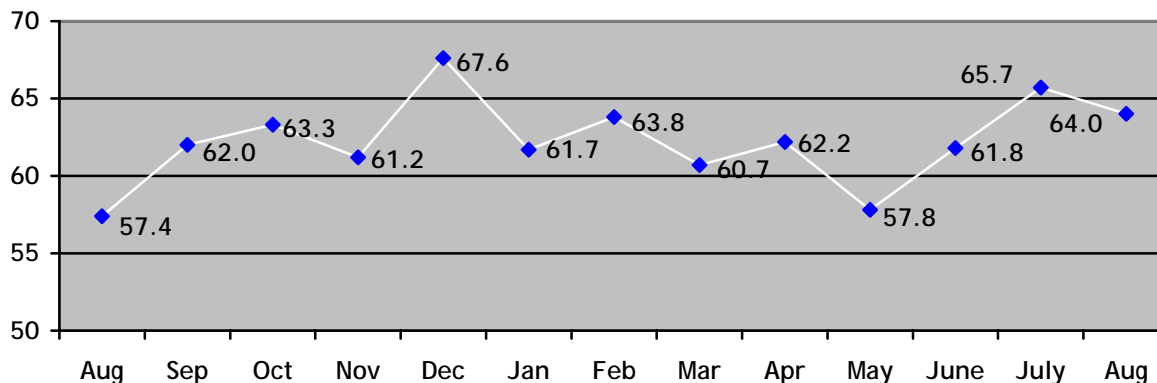
DALLAS, Texas, September 21, 2007 - After rising for two consecutive months and reaching its highest level in 2007, the Texas Employee Confidence Index declined 1.7 points to 64 in August, according to the latest Spherion® Employment Report. The monthly survey of Texas workers, conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN), reveals that more workers believe the economy is getting weaker and fewer workers are confident in the future of their current employers.

### Results from the Texas Employment Report:

- Fewer workers are confident in the future of their current employers. Specifically in August, 71 percent of workers reported confidence in their employer compared to 75 percent in the previous month.
- Thirty-six percent of workers believe the economy is getting weaker, an increase of nine percentage points compared to July.
- Sixty-three percent of workers are confident in their ability to find a new job, compared to 61 percent in July.

“This drop in overall confidence is not surprising, considering the slowing of the housing market, and the jobless rate increasing for the first time this year,” said Kim Lockhart, director of operations for Spherion in Texas. “Despite these concerns, employers are continuing to add to their payrolls and job creation continues across the state. In our own staffing and recruiting business, we are seeing employers entertain more relocation packages and flexible hours, in addition to panel interviews, to attract talent before their competition does. This trend is happening across the board, especially in the technology, financial services and energy sectors.”

### Employee Confidence Index



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## August 2007 Employment Report Results

		<u>Texas Workers</u>			<u>U.S. Workers</u>		
		<i>July</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>
Economy	Getting Stronger	27%	31%	+4	20%	19%	-1
	Staying Same	47%	34%	-13	40%	36%	-4
	Getting Weaker	27%	36%	+9	40%	45%	+5
Job Availability	More Jobs	36%	35%	-1	28%	26%	-2
	Same Amount	37%	37%	0	37%	36%	-1
	Fewer Jobs	28%	28%	0	35%	37%	+2
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	61%	63%	+2	60%	62%	+2
	Neutral	31%	25%	-6	27%	25%	-2
	Not Confident	9%	12%	+3	14%	12%	-2
Future of Current Employer	Confident	75%	71%	-4	64%	67%	+3
	Neutral	16%	17%	+1	24%	20%	-4
	Not Confident	10%	12%	+2	12%	13%	+1
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	9%	12%	+3	12%	11%	-1
	Neutral	10%	16%	+6	9%	9%	0
	Not Likely	82%	72%	-10	79%	80%	+1
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	35%	34%	-1	36%	37%	+1
	Neutral	10%	12%	+2	9%	11%	+2
	Not Likely	55%	54%	-1	56%	52%	-4

### 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 August 2007 Spherion® Employment Report is based on data from a Harris Interactive® QuickQuery<sup>SM</sup> online survey conducted on behalf of Spherion Corporation. A U.S. sample of 3,126 employed adults, aged 18 years and older, of whom 202 are employed in Texas (for July 2007 n=170) was interviewed in a series of two polls conducted between August 6-8 and August 13-15, 2007. 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 3,126 U.S. employed adults one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results would have a sampling error of +/- two percentage points, and the sampling error for the Texas state sample results would be +/- 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 locations 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](http://www.spherion.com). For up-to-date career tips and trends, visit Spherion's career blog, *The Big Time*<sup>SM</sup>, at [www.spherion.com/careerblog](http://www.spherion.com/careerblog).

### About Harris Interactive

Harris Interactive is the 13th largest and one of the fastest-growing market research firms in the world. The company provides innovative research, 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 it believes to be the world's largest panel of survey respondents, the Harris Poll Online. Harris Interactive serves clients worldwide through its North American, European and Asian offices, and through a global network of independent market research firms. More information about Harris Interactive may be obtained at [www.harrisinteractive.com](http://www.harrisinteractive.com).

To become a member of the Harris Poll Online and be invited to participate in online surveys, register at [www.harrispollonline.com](http://www.harrispollonline.com).

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