

More Than Half of Workers Who Were Laid Off in the Last Three Months Have Found New Jobs, Reveals New CareerBuilder Survey **--Job Seekers Continue to Be Resilient, Explore a Variety of Options--**

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As the economy gradually improves, laid-off workers' job searches are beginning to improve in 2010 as well. According to an updated survey by CareerBuilder, 51 percent of workers who were laid off in the last three months have found new full-time or part-time positions. This is up from 44 percent of workers who said the same in a November 2009 survey. The CareerBuilder survey was conducted nationwide among more than 900 workers who were laid off within the last 12 months.

"As consumers and businesses grow more confident in the economic outlook in the U.S., hiring managers are beginning to add new staff at an improved, but cautious pace," said Brent Rasmussen, President of CareerBuilder North America. "More than half of workers who were laid off in the first quarter have already found employment, primarily in full-time positions. Not only is this a positive indicator for the labor market, it also shows that job seekers are being resourceful in their job hunts and are open to different types of opportunities."

Changes in Pay

Looking at workers who were laid off in the last three months and found new jobs, nearly 40 percent reported they were able to negotiate comparable or higher pay for their new position. Sixty-one percent of workers took a pay cut.

TRENDS OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS

Re-Hired by Former Employers

Businesses are beginning to bring back their workforce. Fifty-seven percent of workers laid off in the last six months have been re-hired by their former employer who laid them off from their jobs. Seven-in-ten (71 percent) of workers who were laid off in the last six months and have not found jobs would be willing to work for their former employer. Of these workers, 22 percent indicated that they would only return to their previous workplace if their employer offered them more money.

Transferring Skills to Other Industries and Fields

Workers reported they are repackaging their skills and experience for different industries. Sixty-four percent of workers who were laid off in the last six months and landed new jobs said they found work in a different field than where they were previously employed. More than half of them (55 percent) reported they really enjoy their new positions.

Plans to Change Employers When the Economy Improves

The majority of laid-off workers (63 percent) who found new jobs in the last six months plan to stay with their current employers when the economy turns around. Thirty-seven percent plan to change employers once market conditions improve.

Relocation

Workers are also expanding their job searches beyond their current borders. More than four-in-ten (46 percent) workers who were laid off in the last six months and found jobs relocated; the vast majority (93 percent) moved to another city versus another state. Of those laid off in the last six months and still looking for employment, 42 percent reported they would consider relocating for a job opportunity.

Starting a Business

Some job seekers indicated they are embracing entrepreneurship in their efforts to find employment. Thirty-two percent of workers who were laid off in the last six months and have not found jobs are considering starting their own businesses.

Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the U.S. by Harris Interactive© on behalf of CareerBuilder among 997 U.S. workers who were laid-off from full-time non-government jobs in the last 12 months ages 18 and over between February 10 and March 2, 2010 (percentages for some questions are based on a subset, based on their responses to certain questions). With a pure probability sample of 997, one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points. Sampling error for data from sub-samples is higher and varies.

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Media Contact:

CareerBuilder

Allison Nawoj

773-527-2437

allison.nawoj@careerbuilder.com

<http://www.twitter.com/CareerBuilderPR>

First Call Analyst:

FCMN Contact:

SOURCE: CareerBuilder

CONTACT: Allison Nawoj of CareerBuilder, +1-773-527-2437,
allison.nawoj@careerbuilder.com

Web Site: <http://www.careerbuilder.com/>

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