

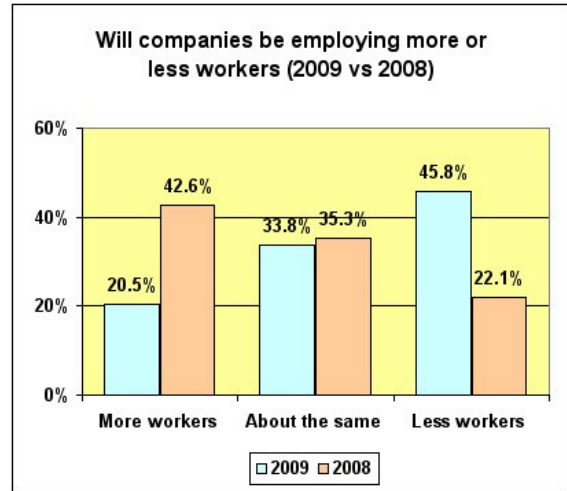
JobStreet.com Job Outlook Survey, 1Q 2009

MANILA, 24 Dec 2008 -- We are pleased to present you with the results of the JobStreet.com Job Outlook survey, 1Q 2009 for the Philippines.

Will companies be employing more or less workers in 2009 when compared with 2008?

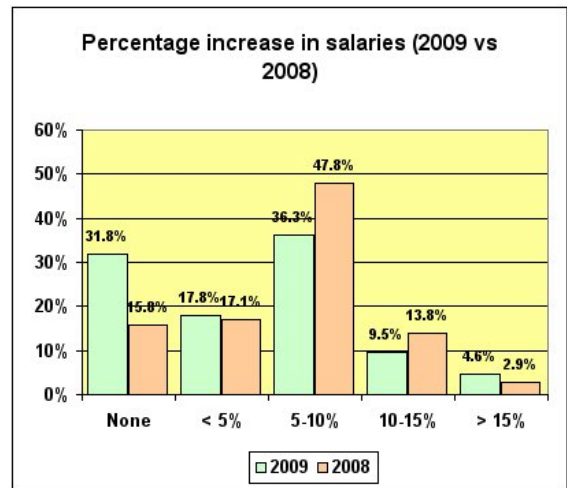
We are seeing a trend where companies are beginning to employ less workers in the future.

Our survey revealed that about 46 percent of companies are looking at employing less people in 2009, which is an increase from the 22 percent reported at the beginning of 2008. The percentage of companies that said they would employ more people in 2009 decreased from 43 percent (2008) to 21 percent.



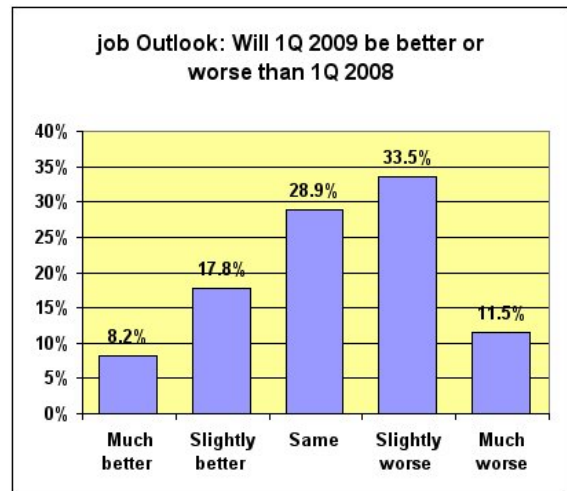
What about salary increases in 2009 compared with 2008?

Among the companies surveyed, the trend is also shifting towards lower salary increases. Significantly, the percentage of companies that indicated that they would not increase salaries in the new year has doubled: our survey showed 32 percent of companies in 2009 compared with 16 percent in 2008.



Finally, the last question we asked was on job outlook. How would companies compare the job outlook in the first quarter of 2009 with the same period in 2008?

As the economic downturn continues to bite in this region, it was not surprising to see that about 34 percent of the respondents said that the job outlook would be slightly worse than the same period last year. A further 12 percent painted a bleaker picture, saying the situation would be much worse while about 29 percent expressed opinion that job outlook would be the same. Only about 26 percent of companies were confident enough to say that the job outlook for their industries would be at least slightly better.



If companies are hiring, what are the specializations or experience in job seekers that they would look for in the first quarter of 2009?

People with expertise in computer (software engineering) will be in top demand, according to the results of the survey, displacing those who are in sales/marketing. Also, people with experience in marketing/business development are likely to be in high demand too.

Other specializations that will continue to be well sought after are in customer service, accounting, and human resource. Top management people will also be in demand.

Top 20 specialisations Employers seek		
Q1 2009	H2 2008	ALL INDUSTRIES
1	3	Computer & IT (Software)
2	1	Sales/Marketing (Merchandising)
3	2	Marketing & business development
4	6	Customer service
5	7	Computer & IT (Hardware)
6	4	General/Cost accounting
7	5	Human resource
8	14	Top management
9	10	Sales/Marketing (Technical)
10	9	Clerical/General administration
11	18	Quality assurance
12	12	Engineering (Electrical)
13	16	Telesales & telemarketing
14	11	Engineering (Civil & construction)
15	8	Engineering (Mechanical)
16	27	Hotel & tourism
17	31	Food, beverages & restaurant
18	20	Financial (Banking)
19	25	Advertising
20	17	Engineering (Electronics)

Note: This survey was conducted with more than 900 employers across various industries in the Philippines in Dec 2008.

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