

# CBIZ Small Business Employment Index Reveals Another Retreat In Hiring

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CLEVELAND, Sep 02, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) --

The August [CBIZ](#) Small Business Employment Index (SBEI), a barometer for hiring trends among companies with 300 or fewer employees, further decreased by .36 percent through the month, after posting a decrease of .90 percent in July.

Today's announcement follows ADP's August jobs survey which showed that the private sector added 91,000 jobs in August, reasonably lower than the 109,000 jobs added in July. Additionally, the August count modestly missed analysts' expectations of 100,000 new jobs.

Philip Noftsinger, CPA and business unit president for [CBIZ Payroll Services](#), says, "While we focus solely on small businesses, our monthly data is very consistent with other employment indicators offered by the marketplace. Most of the statistical information we are seeing related to employment is showing a "no-change" result, and our metric is no different, showing a very mild decline."

Additional take-away points from the August data set include:

- **At a glance:** Of the companies that were surveyed, the data shows that 26 percent reported a decrease in employee headcount while 23 percent increased staffing. 51 percent of the companies involved in the survey maintained their number of employees.
- **A plan for growth:** According to the first CBIZ Small Business Market Survey, a survey offered to the companies involved in the SBEI, almost 28 percent are looking to deploy growth strategies in the coming year, focused primarily on marketing and e-commerce.
- **What to watch:** In terms of employment, more than 49 percent of the market survey respondents were looking to add workers in the next three months, while more than 37 percent indicated that they will maintain their current workforce levels. That may not be enough to keep pace with the growth of the labor pool, translating to either consistent unemployment levels or the potential for a mild improvement over the next quarter.

"Anecdotally, we are seeing continued confirmation that consumer demand and the overall economic attitude of consumers as the top reasons affecting growth among small businesses," Noftsinger explains.

Currently, CBIZ Payroll Services manages payroll services for approximately 3,000 businesses that employ fewer than 300 people. The sample reflects a broad array of industries and geographies corresponding to the markets across the United States where CBIZ provides services.

*Editor's note: The United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Situation Summary is due to be released on Friday, September 2, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Noftsinger is available for media interviews to discuss employment trends and other payroll matters impacting the American business environment.*

## About [CBIZ, Inc.](#) (NYSE:CBZ)

CBIZ, Inc. provides professional business services that help clients better manage their finances and employees. CBIZ provides its clients with financial services including accounting and tax, internal audit, merger and acquisition advisory and valuation services. Employee services include group benefits, property and casualty insurance, retirement planning, payroll, HR consulting and wealth management. CBIZ also provides outsourced technology staffing support services, healthcare consulting and medical practice management. As one of the largest benefits specialists and one of the largest accounting, valuation and medical practice management companies in the United States, the company's services are provided through more than 150 offices in 36 states.



SOURCE: CBIZ, Inc.

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