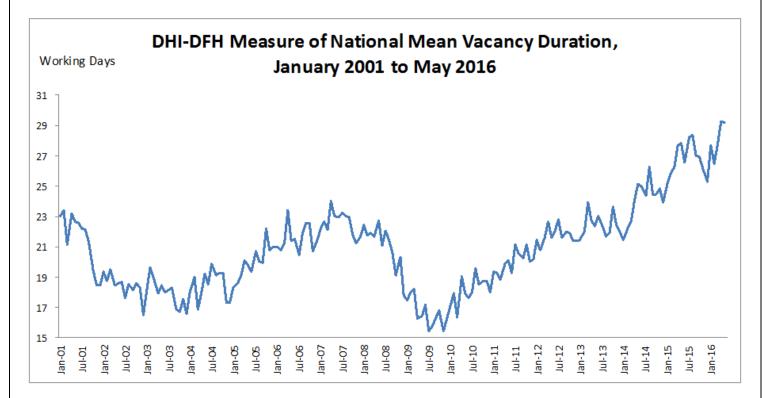


July 2016 Report 27

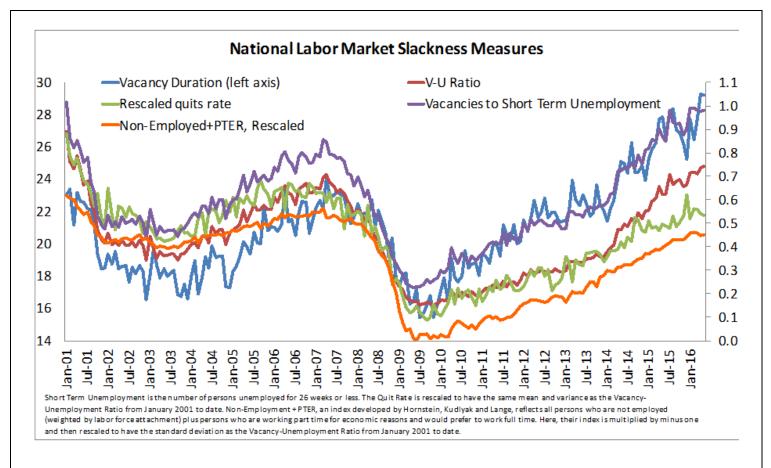
Mean Vacancy Duration Remains at Historically High Level in May

The **DHI-DFH Mean Vacancy Duration Measure** was 29.2 working days in May, nearly unchanged from the historic peak of 29.3 days in April. Health Services and Financial Services continue to exhibit especially long vacancy durations at 47.5 and 43.2 working days, respectively.

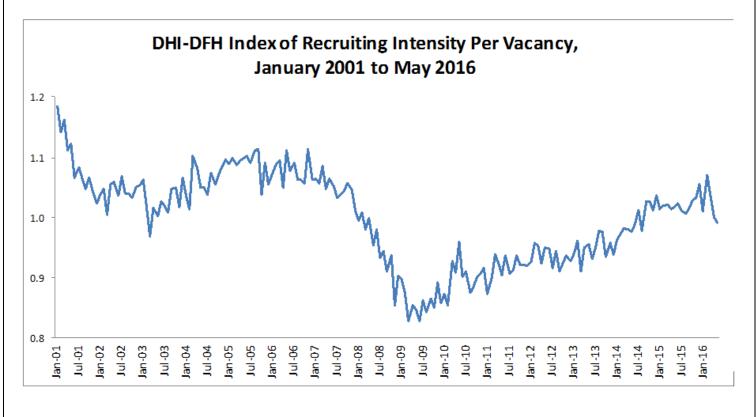
The following chart shows the evolution of the mean vacancy duration in the United States since 2001. The vacancy duration measure reflects the vacancy concept in the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). Specifically, a job opening gets "filled" according to JOLTS when a job offer for the open position is accepted. So the vacancy duration statistics refer to the average length of time required to fill open positions. Typically, there is also a lag between the fill date and the new hire's start date on the new job.



The next chart displays four other indicators of labor market slack alongside the mean vacancy duration. All five measures show a pronounced tightening of U.S. labor markets since 2009. Three of the measures – mean vacancy duration, the vacancy-unemployment ratio, and the ratio of vacancies to the number of persons unemployed for 26 weeks or less – now exceed their peak values prior to the recession of 2008-2009. The post-recession rise in the mean vacancy duration is especially pronounced.



The **DHI-DFH Recruiting Intensity Index,** plotted in the following chart, fell to 0.99 in May, down from a revised 1.00 in April.



The next two tables report industry-level statistics for vacancy duration and recruiting intensity per vacancy.

Mean Vacancy Duration (Number of Working Days)											
By Industry and Time Period											
	2001 to 2003	2004 to 2006	2008	2009	2010 to 2012	2013	2014	2015	JanMay. 2016		
Resources	12.0	14.0	18.1	13.5	18.7	17.4	22.5	16.5	14.0		
Construction	7.9	8.8	7.3	4.3	6.1	9.5	10.9	11.5	14.8		
Manufacturing	17.4	20.9	21.6	13.8	23.4	28.4	29.2	30.6	33.7		
Wholesale and Retail Trade	14.2	15.8	15.5	13.1	15.9	19.8	18.6	20.6	22.9		
Warehouse, Trans. & Utilities	18.6	17.0	20.6	11.3	18.2	22.5	23.9	28.0	29.2		
Information	25.8	36.0	34.4	23.4	40.9	36.5	36.7	35.3	31.1		
Financial Services	28.0	32.1	27.6	25.7	33.3	36.2	37.3	43.0	43.3		
Professional and Business Services	18.3	19.9	21.3	16.6	18.8	19.6	21.9	26.5	26.1		
Education	21.3	25.0	22.0	18.5	21.1	23.8	26.6	31.1	30.5		
Health Services	39.1	35.8	36.4	29.8	33.5	34.6	38.4	45.0	48.2		
Leisure and Hospitality	13.7	14.8	14.9	10.4	13.3	16.6	19.3	19.7	19.9		
Other Services	22.5	18.6	25.2	16.9	18.9	20.0	20.9	22.0	31.5		
Government	33.2	30.7	35.7	32.2	33.0	35.9	37.7	38.0	36.7		
Non-Farm	19.3	20.0	21.1	16.6	20.0	22.5	24.1	26.8	28.1		

Recruiting Intensity Index											
By Industry and Time Period											
	2001 to 2003	2004 to 2006	2008	2009	2010 to 2012	2013	2014	2015	JanMay. 2016		
Resources	0.99	1.06	1.05	0.70	1.00	0.98	1.04	0.92	0.93		
Construction	1.07	1.04	0.89	0.90	1.01	0.94	0.89	0.88	0.86		
Manufacturing	1.02	1.09	0.95	0.85	0.94	0.88	0.92	0.92	0.93		
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1.05	1.10	0.96	0.84	0.89	0.94	1.04	1.04	1.04		
Warehouse, Trans. & Utilities	0.96	1.13	0.94	0.92	0.96	1.01	1.11	1.10	0.96		
Information	1.10	1.08	0.87	0.83	0.91	1.06	1.10	1.15	1.14		
Financial Services	1.06	1.09	0.99	0.84	0.87	0.99	0.95	0.95	1.02		
Professional and Business Services	1.08	1.07	0.90	0.83	0.94	0.96	1.00	1.01	1.01		
Education	1.00	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.99	0.94	1.00	1.00	1.08		
Health Services	1.08	1.04	1.01	0.93	0.89	0.92	0.96	1.01	0.99		
Leisure and Hospitality	1.08	1.08	0.97	0.84	0.88	0.92	0.96	1.00	1.02		
Other Services	1.02	1.07	0.94	0.96	0.95	0.98	0.96	1.04	0.96		
Government	1.05	1.05	0.94	0.87	0.93	0.93	0.99	1.09	1.12		
Non-Farm	1.05	1.08	0.95	0.86	0.92	0.95	1.00	1.02	1.02		

"Vacancy durations remain near historic peaks, suggesting a scarcity of qualified candidates for many job openings or a cautious approach to hiring decisions," said Dr. Steven Davis, William H. Abbott Professor of International Business and Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Davis is a cocreator of the DHI-DFH Recruiting Intensity Index and the DHI-DFH Mean Vacancy Duration Measure.

"Employers tell us sourcing for highly skilled candidates is a priority, however finding top talent continues to be difficult, which is extending the hiring process and lengthening the time-to-fill open positions. This is particularly apparent in the financial services and healthcare industries," said Michael Durney, President and CEO of DHI Group, Inc. "There is a level of economic uncertainty globally having an impact on hiring managers here in the U.S. Companies continue to hire, albeit at a slower pace than last year."

About the DHI Hiring Indicators

The **DHI-DFH Recruiting Intensity Index** quantifies the effective intensity of recruiting efforts per vacancy by employers with vacant job positions. The index is normalized to an average value of 1.0 for the period from January 2001 to December 2012. It complements the monthly <u>Job Openings Rate</u> produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from the <u>Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey</u>.

The pace of new hires in the economy depends on the number and types of job seekers, the number and types of job vacancies, and employer actions that affect how quickly vacant jobs are filled. These actions include the choice of recruiting methods, expenditures on help-wanted ads, how rapidly employers screen job applicants, hiring standards, and the attractiveness of compensation packages offered to prospective new hires. The BLS Job Openings Rate captures the availability of job vacancies in the economy, while the **DHI-DFH Recruiting Intensity Index** captures the intensity of employer efforts to fill those vacancies. The index is available at the national, regional and industry levels and by establishment size class (number of employees).

The index construction follows the method developed by Steven J. Davis, R. Jason Faberman and John Haltiwanger (DFH) in "<u>The Establishment-Level Behavior of Vacancies and Hiring</u>," published in the May 2013 issue of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and extended to industry and regional indices in "<u>Recruiting</u> <u>Intensity during and after the Great Recession: National and Industry Evidence</u>," published in the May 2012 issue of the *American Economic Review*.

The **DHI-DFH Vacancy Duration Measure** quantifies the average number of working days taken to fill vacant job positions. It supplements other measures often used to assess the tightness of labor market conditions such as the ratio of vacant jobs to unemployed workers.

Vacancy durations depend on the relative numbers of job seekers and job vacancies, the recruiting and search methods available to employers and job seekers, employer recruiting intensity per vacancy, the search intensity of job seekers, and the degree to which the requirements of jobs on offer match the skills, locations and preferences of job seekers. Other things equal, a larger ratio of job vacancies to job seekers yields longer vacancy durations.

The **DHI-DFH Vacancy Duration Measure** follows the method developed by Steven J. Davis, R. Jason Faberman and John Haltiwanger (DFH) in "<u>The Establishment-Level Behavior of Vacancies and Hiring</u>," published in the May 2013 issue of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. That method combines a simple model of hiring dynamics with data on hires and vacancies from the <u>Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey</u> (JOLTS) conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Using their model and the JOLTS data, DFH estimate an average daily job-filling rate for vacant job positions in each month. Taking the reciprocal of the daily jobfilling rate yields the **DHI-DFH Vacancy Duration Measure**, which is available at the national, regional and industry levels and by establishment size class. The average daily job-filling rate is closely related to the "vacancy yield," the ratio of hires during the month to the stock of vacancies on the last business day of the previous month. Unlike the vacancy yield, however, the daily job-filling rate (and the **DHI-DFH Vacancy Duration Measure**) adjusts for job vacancies that are posted and filled within the month. Working days are defined as Mondays through Saturdays, excluding major national holidays.

About DHI Group, Inc.

DHI Group, Inc. (NYSE: DHX) is a leading provider of data, insights and connections through our specialized services for professional communities including technology and security clearance, financial services, energy, healthcare and hospitality. Our mission is to empower professionals and organizations to compete and win through expert insights and relevant employment connections. Employers and recruiters use our websites and services to source and hire the most qualified professionals in select and highly-skilled occupations, while professionals use our websites and services to find the best employment opportunities in and the most timely news and information about their respective areas of expertise. For over 25 years, we have built our company on providing employers and recruiters with efficient access to high-quality, unique professional communities, and offering the professionals in those communities access to highly-relevant career opportunities, news, tools and information. Today, we serve multiple markets located throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East and the Asia Pacific region.

For more information:

Dr. Steven J. Davis 773.702.7312 steven.davis@chicagobooth.edu

Michael Durney President & CEO DHI Group, Inc. 212-949-3348 durneyhiring@dhigroupinc.com