

Why Seasonal Hiring Has Slowed and Why It May Be A Good Sign Economically Explained by An Employment Company in West Palm Beach

December 31, 2018

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West Palm Beach, Fla. - With the holiday shopping season fully underway, Americans hit the sales and grabbed gifts as usual, but something may have been different this year, according to new survey results and on-the-ground reports from an employment company in West Palm Beach and other Express franchise owners-some employers weren?t hiring as many seasonal workers.

"We have seen more seasonal hiring in the past four to five years," said John Calabrese, an Express franchise owner in Utica, New York. "This is the first down year that we have experienced with seasonal positions."

Likewise, Daniel Morgan, an Express franchise owner in Birmingham, Alabama, reported, "Our hours usually go up in December with some seasonal business. We have not heard of any seasonal additions this year."

Bernie Inbody, an Express franchise owner in Omaha, Nebraska, said his office usually has a few retail clients looking for seasonal workers but "not as many" this year.

Some major retailers announced that they planned to hire thousands fewer holiday workers this year, while others were providing incentives to regular employees to work extra hours. And according to a survey of businesses fielded by Express, only 32 percent expected to have seasonal work this year.

While this may sound like troubling news, it could actually be a sign of economic success.

"This is not surprising to our team," Calabrese said. "More companies are fully staffed than in the prior years, and hiring has continued on a rapid pace over the last few years. More employers are looking to manage the seasonal increases with current staff. Minimum wage increases have also curbed seasonal hiring as well."

Regardless of current trends, taking a seasonal job can be a good career move explains a job agency in West Palm Beach. It's a "foot in the door" to becoming a permanent employee.

"In a period of almost unprecedentedly low unemployment and a remarkably tight labor market, it makes sense that seasonal hiring trends are changing," said Bill Stoller, CEO of Express. "Businesses have still staffed up for the holiday rush, but maybe not quite like they have in the past. The good news is that they are finally able to afford more full-time workers. It's certainly something to celebrate this holiday season."

The survey of 804 businesses, which are current and former clients of Express Employment Professionals, was conducted in August 2018 to gauge respondents' expectations for the fourth quarter of 2018.

The Express West Palm Beach office is located at 2540 Metrocentre Blvd #3, West Palm Beach, FL 33047. Local businesses and job seekers can stop by the office, call (561) 475-1004, or visit online at www.expresspros.com/WPalmBeachFL.

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