



Corporate Offices  
755 Sansome Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94111

877 892 2430  
[www.healthws.com](http://www.healthws.com)

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**For more information, contact:**

David Cherner, Managing Partner, HWS at 415.981.4300 x801, [david@healthws.com](mailto:david@healthws.com)

**HWS LABOR MARKET PULSE INDEX SHOWS CONTINUED  
IMPROVEMENT IN U.S. HEALTH CARE LABOR MARKETS DESPITE  
RECENT SPATE OF LAYOFFS**

*Orlando, San Francisco Bay and Detroit are top three markets in Q2 2010; Las Vegas, New York and Houston found to be most sluggish.*

**San Francisco, CA July 14, 2010** – The Q2 HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index (LMPI), a quarterly barometer of local market healthcare workforce fluctuations released today, shows near-term demand for health care workers growing fastest in Orlando, San Francisco Bay and Detroit for the second quarter of 2010. The Las Vegas, New York metro and Houston markets ranked at the bottom of the 30 markets tracked.

Among the findings for the second quarter of 2010:

- Despite a quarter where the hospital industry saw the largest number of mass layoffs in a year, overall, the health care labor market improved notably across most major metropolitan areas as measured by the HWS Labor Market Pulse Index<sup>®</sup> (LMPI).
- Much of the growth was fueled by newly announced or modified expansion plans and/or large-scale hiring announcements at organizations including the University of Michigan Health System and Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, the UCSF Mission Bay Hospital, and the University of California-San Diego Medical Center.
- For the 2nd quarter ended 6/30/10, 20 markets of the 30 tracked by the LMPI showed signs of accelerated expansion (vs. 11 in the prior quarter).
- The LMPI composite index, a representative basket of the 30 largest markets, posted an 18% increase in the second quarter of 2010 from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010, after an 8% drop the prior quarter.

“While our findings may seem inconsistent with the recent announcements of a record 18 massive hospital layoffs in April, we believe that a number of those incidents may have been isolated or delayed cuts and not necessarily indicative of a larger trend,” said David Cherner, Managing Partner of Health Workforce Solutions LLC, the company that publishes the HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index. “The LMPI indicates fairly unequivocally that health care hiring is coming back and will likely materialize in the next couple quarters.”

In response to demands for local workforce data that provides actionable information, HWS launched Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> in 2008, a first of-its-kind, centralized and local workforce planning tool for health care employers in several key major markets.

The launch of the HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index (LMPI) in 2009 expanded the footprint of Labor Market Pulse into 30 markets and now enables meaningful comparison, by tracking elements including temporary health workforce shortages and surpluses, facility and bed closures, announced layoffs and expansions, and local economic trends. Going forward, the HWS LMPI will be expanded to 36 markets and continue to be tracked on a quarterly basis both individually and in composite indices.

For more information on the HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index, visit [www.healthws.com](http://www.healthws.com) or call 1-877-892-2430 x805.

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#### **About Health Workforce Solutions LLC (HWS)**

Health Workforce Solutions LLC (HWS) is a leading research and advisory firm focused on workforce issues in health care. Founded in 2004, the clients of HWS include hospitals and health systems, health plans, professional practice groups and associations, educational and training institutions, foundations and government agencies. For more information, visit [www.healthws.com](http://www.healthws.com) or call 1-877-892-2430 x805.

#### **About the HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index (LMPI)**

The HWS Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> Index (LMPI) provides a quarterly barometer of local market healthcare workforce expansion and contraction. Patterned loosely after the Case-Shiller home index, the LMPI identifies and enables comparison of 30 health care labor markets by tracking elements including temporary health workforce shortages and surpluses, facility and bed closures, announced layoffs and expansions, and local economic trends. The LMPI is published quarterly as part of Labor Market Pulse<sup>®</sup> and distributed nationally to health care executives, the media and other interested parties. For more information, visit [www.labormarketpulse.com](http://www.labormarketpulse.com).