



**For Immediate Release:**

**ACSESS Releases Canadian Staffing Index for December 2010**

**Seasonal Trends Sighted in the Latest Index**

**Mississauga, ON** – The Association of Canadian Search, Employment and Staffing Services (ACSESS) released the Canadian Staffing Index for December 2010.

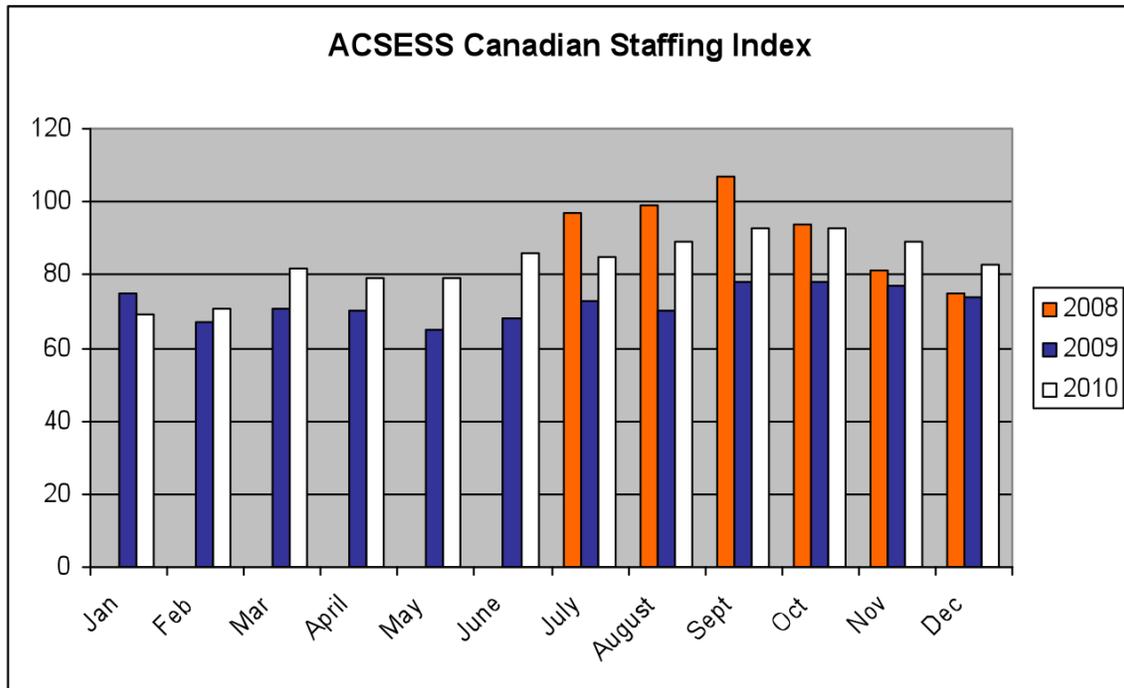
The Index reading of 83 is no doubt reflective of the traditional seasonality experienced in the staffing industry in December. The six point loss may be attributed to a few factors:

- The Christmas Holiday Season tends to reflect a drop in the hours worked by contract and temporary staff, especially in the last two weeks of the year. Holidays and plant shut downs are normal trends during this time. This pattern is similar to the configuration seen in the December Canadian Staffing Indexes for 2008 and 2009 which was considered a typical industry seasonal cycle within the recovering economy.
- As we climb out of the recession employers are continuing to demonstrate extreme caution in their hiring practices. Considerable time is being taken in the selection process for permanent positions in hope they can avoid the costs of poor hiring decisions, turn over and terminations of mismatched new employees. Long hiring processes contribute to longer temporary assignments and simultaneously contribute to why the unemployed generally remain unemployed.

Although one initially tends to see these results as negative, it is critical that we look at the bigger picture. As noted in the recent release of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual BMO Capital Staffing Survey and Industry Outlook the forecasts are positive for 2011:

*“Our respondents expect 16% and 17% increases in revenue and net income, respectively, in 2011. While a bit optimistic, the survey group has historically outperformed the industry. We agree that momentum will continue into 2011, albeit to a lesser extent.”*

We look forward to seeing the Index results for January as a significant indicator of the health of Canada’s economy and job creation. This will be determined by the speed the Index returns to the mid 90’s level. ACSESS continues to believe the Index demonstrates the close correlation between the staffing industry and the state of the economy.



### **About the Canadian Staffing Index:**

The data collected for the Canadian Staffing Index is the largest sample size ever collected in Canada. An Index value of 94 measures the hours of labour performed by temporary and contract staff in October 2010 compared to the benchmark index of 100 established in July 2008. ACSESS shares this valuable information with the business world as this data is indicative of the current employment landscape and provides future insight to economic development.

### **About ACSESS**

ACSESS is the single voice for promoting best practices and ethical standards for the recruitment, employment and staffing services industry in Canada. For more information visit: [www.acsess.org](http://www.acsess.org)

### **About Staffing Industry Analysts**

Staffing Industry Analysts is the premier research and analysis firm covering temporary employment and the contingent workforce. Known for its independent and objective insights, the company's proprietary research, data, support tools, publications and executive conferences provide a competitive edge to decision-makers who supply and buy temporary staffing. In addition to temporary staffing, Staffing Industry Analysts also covers these related staffing sectors: third party placement, and staff leasing (PEOs). Founded in 1989, the company is headquartered in Los Altos, California. For more information visit: [www.staffingindustry.com](http://www.staffingindustry.com)