



AESC Insights

Q2 2005

State of the Executive Search Industry

AESC Quarterly State of the Industry Statistics: Q2 2005

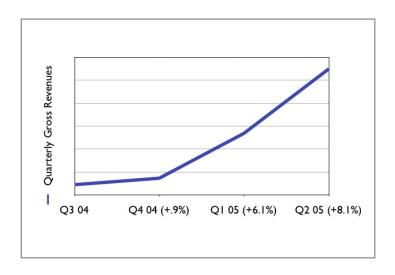
AESC Quarterly State of the Industry Statistics is a quarterly report issued by the Association of Executive Search Consultants (AESC) on statistics and trends in the global retained executive search industry. Data for this report are collected from a consistent sample of AESC member search firms that represents the activity of over 1,200 executive search consultants in 42 countries worldwide.

FINANCIAL TRENDS

Average Gross Revenues

Average gross revenues rose 8.1% from Q1 2005 to Q2 2005.

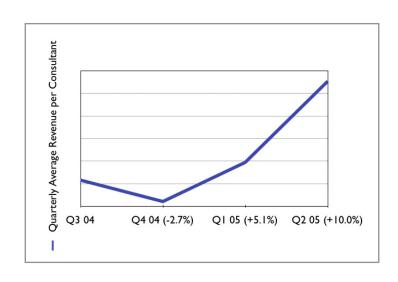
Quarterly Gross Revenues



Average Revenue per Consultant

Average Revenue per Consultant rose 10% from Q1 2005 to Q2 2005.

Quarterly Average Revenue per Consultant

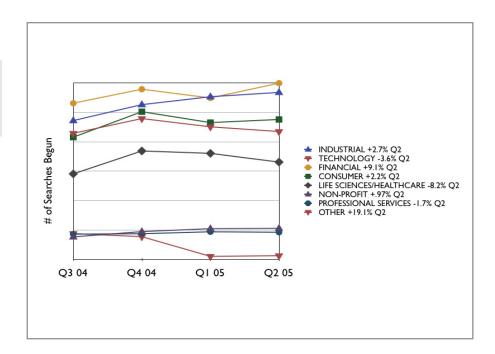


INDUSTRY TRENDS

Trend in number of searches started, by industry

Most industries saw growth in searches from Q1 to Q2 2005. Mainly, the Industrial (+2.7%), Financial (+9.1%), Consumer Products (+2.2%), and Non-Profit (+.97%) sectors all saw growth in number of searches started. Those industries that saw a decline in searches from Q1 2005 include the Technology (-3.6%), Life Sciences & Healthcare (-8.2%), and Professional Services (-1.7%) sectors.

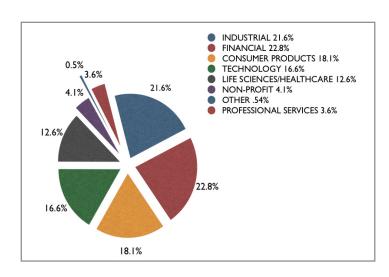
Trend in Number of Searches Started Quarterly, by Industry



Market Breakdown by Industry

Reiterating last quarter's results, close to 80% of all searches came from four industries: Industrial, Financial, Consumer Products and Technology. With the Financial sector seeing the most growth from Q1, this sector led all industries with 22.8% of all searches coming from the Financial sector, 21.6% from Industrial, 18.1% from Consumer Products and 16.6% from Technology.

Searches Started in Quarter 2, 2005, by Industry as Percentage of Total

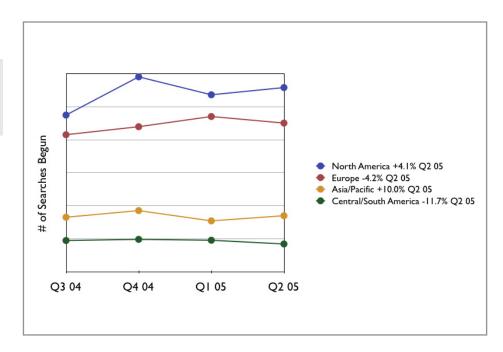


REGIONAL TRENDS: Global

Trend in Number of Searches Started, By Region

The total number of searches started globally during Q2 2005 increased 1.29% from Q1 2005. Asia/Pacific saw the most substantial increase with 10.0% and North America rose by 4.1%. Decreases in total number of searches started occurred in Europe (-4.2%) and Central/South America (-11.7%) from Q1 2005 to Q2 2005.

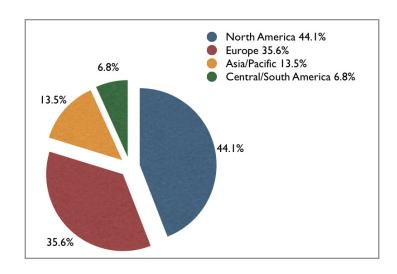
Trend in Number of Searches Started Quarterly, by Region



Market Share by Region

In Q2 2005, North America represented 44.1% of the global retained executive search market – an increase of 1.6% from Q1 2005. European searches made up 35.6% of the total. Asia/Pacific accounted for 13.5% of Q2 2005 searches, and Central/South America 6.8%.

Searches Started in Q2 2005, by Region as Percentage of Total

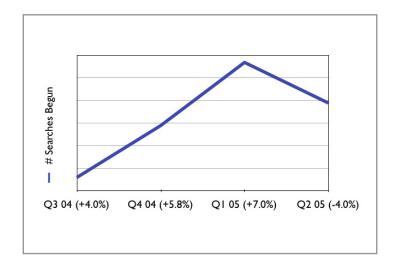


REGIONAL TRENDS: Europe

Trend in Number of Searches Started in Europe

Q2 2005 saw a 4.0% decrease in the number of European searches as compared to Q1 2005, producing an interruption to steadily increasing search activity in the European market.

Trend in Number of Searches Started Quarterly in Europe



Market Share by European Sub-Region

UK searches remained steady from Q1 2005 with 29.9% of the European market. Search activity in France accounted for 8.9% of the European market in Q2 2005 – a 5% decrease from last quarter, while German searches increased capturing 11.5% of the market.

Searches Started in Quarter 2 2005, by European Sub-Region as Percentage of Total Europe

