

Online Job Demand Continues Upward Growth Trend, According to Monster Employment Index Belgium

December 2010 Index Highlights

- [The Monster Employment Index Belgium](#) increased 12 percent compared to the same time last year
- HR exhibited the highest growth in [online job demand](#) year-on-year, extending its lead from last month
- The Flemish region saw the greatest annual growth in the country whilst the Brussels-capital region edged downward in annual growth but maintained the nationwide upward trend in business support services

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index exhibited an annual growth rate of 12 percent in December, marking a small improvement from November's 11 percent growth rate and suggesting some gains in momentum for the labour market.

Upward growth in the business and professional service sectors was particularly strong as the HR industry maintained its lead with 56 percent year-on-year growth, while online job opportunities were also significantly higher than the same time last year in marketing, PR and media (49 percent); and accounting, audit and taxes (26 percent). In contrast, manufacturing and related sectors eased off in momentum, demonstrated through slowed annual growth rates, although remained among the top growth sectors in the Index.

The Monster Employment Index Europe is a monthly analysis of millions of online job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of corporate career sites and job boards across the European Union, including Monster.be.

[Monster Employment Index Belgium](#) findings for the past 13 months are as follows:

Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10	Jan 10	Dec 09
110	110	108	106	105	108	106	113	108	102	94	87	98

“While recovery appears to be ongoing at a slow pace, the economic situation has nonetheless improved from where it was in 2009,” commented Bernard Hensmans, country manager of Monster Belgium. “Estimates on employment in 2010 indicate job creation has been positive, aligning with the gradual month-on-month growth observed in the Index in recent months and the especially encouraging growth in the business and professional service sectors.”

HR continues to lead sectors in annual growth with a 56 percent annual increase

HR continued an upward growth trend and maintained its lead on all sectors in long-term expansion in the Index, suggesting continued improvement primarily in the market for professionals.

The month-on-month growth trends for other professional service sectors such as accounting, audit, taxes; research and development has seen a slight slowdown in momentum for the month in December, although consistent with regular patterns for this time of the year. In addition, these sectors are tracking the steepest rises in long-term trends in the Index with 26 percent and 24 percent respective growth rates.

Online job availability in production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair dipped slightly month-on-month by three points (two percent) although exhibited continued annual growth of 39 percent. Meanwhile transport, post and logistics also saw a slight dip of one point (one per cent) although was up on the year by 24 percent highlighting continued strength in Belgium's manufacturing and export activity.

Education has seen the greatest month-on-month improvement, jumping eight points (seven percent) from November to December indicating more opportunities for employment at the start of the new academic term.

Plant and machine operators, and assemblers saw highest occupational growth year-on-year; skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery group continues annual decline

Online job opportunities edged up in three of the nine occupational groups monitored by the Monster Employment Index between November and December.

Plant and machine operators and assemblers exhibited the highest annual growth for occupations year-on-year at 37 percent, although dipping slightly from November by three points (two percent). This aligns with the slowing down in recruitment trends seen in the production and transportation sectors.

Clerks saw the greatest month-on-month increase in online job demand of all occupational groups with a two point (two percent) growth while legislators, senior officials and managers and elementary groups each edged up by one point (one percent).

Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers fell sharply by seven points (six percent) from November this year and maintained its steep decline year-on-year, falling six percent.

Online job demand continues to be strongest in Flemish region

Online recruitment activity in December slowed in the Brussels-Capital region by two points (three percent), although demand was up three percent compared to a year ago. This demonstrates the most tempered year-on-year improvement among all Belgian regions.

The Flemish region remained the strongest trending region in the Index from an annual growth point of view at 13 percent, with notable year-on-year growth for large

recruitment sectors like production, manufacturing, maintenance, and repair; transport, post and logistics.

Although the Walloon region charted a two point (two percent) reduction between November and December, current online demand exceeds year-ago levels by nine percent.

Best performing sectors

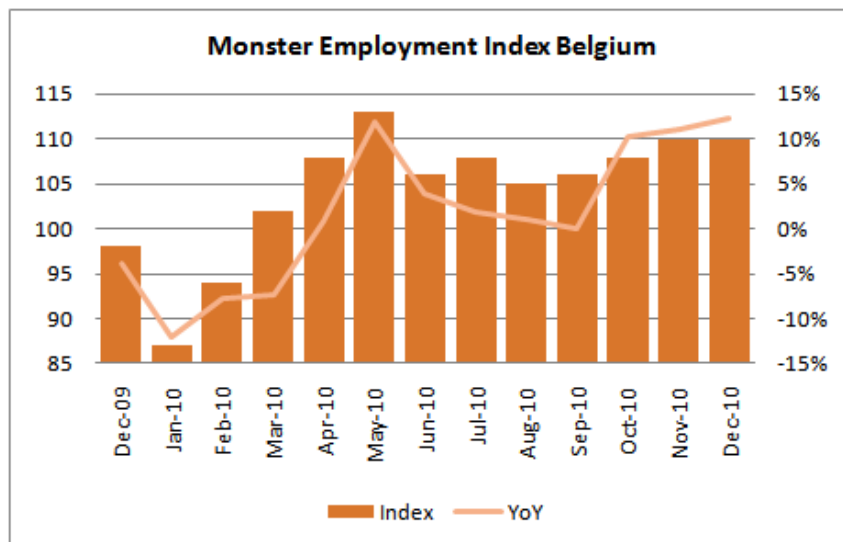
Industry sectors showing the greatest rate of increase in online job availability included:

Month-on-month

Industry	Dec 10	Nov 10	%
Education, training and library	123	115	7%
Arts, entertainment, sport, leisure	86	82	5%
Administrative, organisation	83	81	2%
Public sector, defence, community	212	207	2%
HR	134	131	2%

Year-on-year

Industry	Dec 10	Dec 09	%
HR	134	86	56%
Marketing, PR and media	109	73	49%
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	154	111	39%
Accounting, audit, taxes	126	100	26%
Engineering	134	107	25%



Monster Employment Index Belgium findings across industry sectors for the past 13 months are as follows:

Industry	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10	Jan 10	Dec 09
Accounting, audit, taxes	126	127	120	112	121	115	112	122	124	125	118	98	100
Administrative, organisation	83	81	80	79	83	86	84	89	86	80	73	68	76
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	116	121	124	133	132	129	133	144	143	129	112	116	121
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	86	82	85	88	89	92	84	91	86	81	72	69	85
Banking, finance, insurance	82	81	81	78	79	83	78	86	83	81	79	75	79
Construction and extraction	117	121	121	116	108	111	113	116	116	112	97	99	122
Education, training and library	123	115	115	122	141	137	138	133	132	136	135	130	126
Engineering	134	137	130	122	118	115	124	137	135	119	99	93	107
Environment, architecture, urbanism	84	89	83	86	99	114	111	127	118	114	106	98	86
Healthcare, social work	133	132	125	138	147	155	154	159	149	137	135	128	145
Hospitality and tourism	81	81	82	82	82	83	93	110	98	83	70	66	72
HR	134	131	132	129	135	130	121	130	117	107	94	86	86
IT	92	92	91	88	84	84	82	86	82	79	72	67	77
Legal	104	109	112	107	107	115	112	118	118	112	104	98	100
Management and consulting	123	125	123	119	122	125	122	130	126	120	112	108	118
Marketing, PR and media	109	113	102	100	96	82	95	104	96	92	85	71	73
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	154	157	148	136	134	136	137	153	145	133	123	103	111
Public sector, defence, community	212	207	223	210	194	189	169	201	188	174	171	146	171
Research and development	115	115	110	110	105	113	101	109	101	95	94	82	93
Sales	128	126	124	123	123	129	121	131	125	119	114	103	117
Transport, post and logistics	68	69	69	66	66	69	67	68	63	59	56	51	55

Monster Employment Index Belgium findings across occupational categories for the past 13 months are as follows:

Occupation	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10	Jan 10	Dec 09
Managers	120	119	118	114	111	117	120	128	122	117	105	99	121
Professionals	106	107	102	100	99	98	96	107	102	95	89	79	87
Technicians and associate professionals	113	113	111	109	110	111	108	115	112	108	99	92	102
Clerical support workers	90	88	86	85	89	92	90	95	93	85	78	74	82
Service and sales workers	109	112	112	109	107	104	101	110	104	95	90	85	96
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	108	115	118	129	127	124	129	141	141	124	104	109	115
Craft and related workers	117	120	122	108	100	107	106	113	109	107	101	87	104
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	166	169	162	155	148	141	148	162	150	128	119	107	121
Elementary occupations	135	134	133	128	125	126	126	123	119	112	109	111	120

Monster Employment Index Belgium findings across the regions for the past 13 months are as follows:

Region	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10	Jan 10	Dec 09
Brussels-Capital	74	76	74	73	74	74	71	76	77	74	69	69	72
Flemish Region	119	118	117	114	112	116	115	121	115	109	101	94	105
Walloon Region	104	106	102	106	100	101	94	100	94	94	94	85	95

Monster Employment Index Belgium for January will be released on February 8, 2011.

About The Monster Employment Index Europe

The Monster Employment Index Europe provides monthly insight into online recruitment trends across the European Union. Launched in June 2005 with data from December 2004, the Index is based on a review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of corporate career sites and job boards, including Monster. The Monster Employment Index's underlying data is validated for accuracy by Research America, Inc. – an independent, third-party auditing firm – to ensure that measured online job recruitment activity is within a margin of error of +/- 1.05%.

The Index monitors online job opportunities across all European Union member countries.

The monthly reports for Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Europe are available at: <http://about-monster.com/employment/index/17>.

About Monster Worldwide

Monster Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: MWW), parent company of Monster, the premier global online employment solution for more than a decade, strives to inspire people to improve their lives. With a local presence in key markets in North America, Europe, and Asia, Monster works for everyone by connecting employers with quality job seekers at all levels and by providing personalized career advice to consumers globally. Through online media sites and services, Monster delivers vast, highly targeted audiences to advertisers. Monster Worldwide is a member of the S&P 500 index. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit www.monster.com. More information about Monster Worldwide is available at <http://about-monster.com>.

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