

Online Recruitment Continues An Upward Trend, According to Monster Employment Index Belgium

February 2011 Index Highlights

- The Monster Employment Index Belgium increased 20 percent on the year with a 12 percent month on month rise, demonstrating continued long-term improvement
- HR remained the highest performing sector with increased annual growth of 67 percent, closely followed by Sales, IT and Engineering
- Brussels-capital region noted an advanced improvement in growth in February following a slow January; Flemish region continued to lead all countries in annual growth

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Belgium saw continued improvement in long-term growth trends, with a 20 percent rise on the year and matched a 12-month high in monthly growth with a rise of 12 points (12 percent) from January. These recent momentum gains bring Belgian trends more in-line with European averages, following a period of more tempered growth. The Monster Employment Index Europe is growing at 24 percent on the year.

HR remained top of all sectors in annual growth and took a strong combined lead in monthly growth at 18 percent, matched by healthcare, legal and sales sectors. Other sectors noting strong upward trends included engineering, IT and marketing. In contrast, manufacturing and related sectors exhibited slowed annual growth rates but still 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:

Feb 11	Jan 11	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10
113	101	110	110	108	106	105	108	106	113	108	102	94

“We are continuing to see positive signs of growth in the Belgian economy with unemployment remaining below the EU and Eurozone averages,” commented Bernard Hensmans, country manager of Monster Belgium. “Online recruitment is continuing to climb with positive trends extending beyond the manufacturing and transport sectors

that were initially first to see improvement. In February, sectors such as IT and engineering were among the best performers, as were sales and legal.”

Annual growth rate accelerates in the majority of Industry sectors in February

19 of the 21 industry sectors monitored by the Index exhibited positive annual growth in February.

HR continued its four-month lead, with a further annual rise of 67 percent, a marked improvement on the pace of growth seen over the last two months, representing a solid uptrend within the professional sector. Administrative, organisation also registered strong annual growth of 23 percent, well ahead of the national average (17 percent). Other industries to note strong annual gains included public sector, defence, community at 43 percent, engineering at 37 percent and IT at 31 percent.

Sales registered substantial expansion in online job availability in February of 20 points (18 percent). The strong rebound from January’s seasonal easing is an encouraging indicator that sector employers are expecting an increase in trade activity in the near-term. Opportunities were also higher in both retail and wholesale sub-sectors. Year-on-year growth for the sales sector improved to 17 percent in the Index.

Manufacturing and related activity saw further easing in online recruitment trends, with production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair’s ten percent annual growth rate in February demonstrating a marked slowdown from January’s 27 percent rate. Transport, post and logistics was also up on the year, but at a milder 14 percent compared to the prior month’s pace.

Within the professional services segment, legal exhibited a renewed long-term growth trend for February, with an annual rise of ten percent following a mild decline in January, while also exhibiting the strongest monthly rate of increase with a rise of 18 points (19 percent). Long-term growth trends for this segment continue to be strongest in Engineering (37 percent) and IT (31 percent).

Accounting, audit, taxes and banking, finance, insurance registered moderate gains on the month of five points (four percent) and five points (six percent) respectively. Both sectors are exhibiting slow starts to the year, compared to the rapid rises charted in the early months of 2010. This may suggest tempered job creation rates after the first wave of hiring during this recovery period.

Brussels-Capital region exhibits strong monthly growth in online recruitment

Online worker demand surged in the Brussels-Capital region by 11 points (16 percent) on the month, reflecting a solid rebound from the region’s unseasonably muted January. Current online job availability levels are also 14 percent above where they were a year ago, with notably strong gains in administrative, organisation, sales, and healthcare.

The Flemish region remained the strongest trending region in the Index from an annual growth perspective with a rise of 20 percent on the year, with notable growth for large recruitment sectors like production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair and

transport, post and logistics. The Walloon region meanwhile charted an 11 point (12 percent) rise between January and February.

Best performing sectors

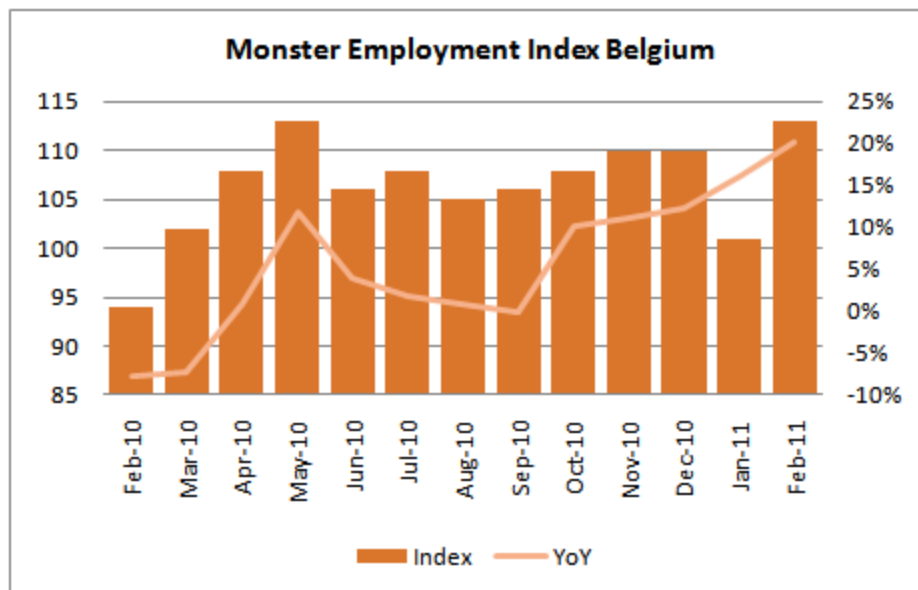
Industry sectors showing the greatest rate of increase in online job availability included:

Month-on-month

Industry	Feb 11	Jan 11	%
Legal	114	96	19%
Healthcare, social work	142	120	18%
HR	157	133	18%
Sales	133	113	18%
Research and development	115	98	17%

Year-on-year

Industry	Feb 11	Feb 10	%
HR	157	94	67%
Public sector, defence, community	244	171	43%
Engineering	136	99	37%
IT	94	72	31%
Administrative, organisation	90	73	23%



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

Industry	Feb 11	Jan 11	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10
Accounting, audit, taxes	122	117	126	127	120	112	121	115	112	122	124	125	118
Administrative, organisation	90	79	83	81	80	79	83	86	84	89	86	80	73
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	128	113	116	121	124	133	132	129	133	144	143	129	112
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	84	79	86	82	85	88	89	92	84	91	86	81	72
Banking, finance, insurance	78	77	82	81	81	78	79	83	78	86	83	81	79
Construction and extraction	116	110	117	121	121	116	108	111	113	116	116	112	97
Education, training and library	144	125	123	115	115	122	141	137	138	133	132	136	135
Engineering	136	119	134	137	130	122	118	115	124	137	135	119	99
Environment, architecture, urbanism	75	73	84	89	83	86	99	114	111	127	118	114	106
Healthcare, social work	142	120	133	132	125	138	147	155	154	159	149	137	135
Hospitality and tourism	72	72	81	81	82	82	82	83	93	110	98	83	70
HR	157	133	134	131	132	129	135	130	121	130	117	107	94
IT	94	84	92	92	91	88	84	84	82	86	82	79	72
Legal	114	96	104	109	112	107	107	115	112	118	118	112	104
Management and consulting	116	108	123	125	123	119	122	125	122	130	126	120	112
Marketing, PR and media	102	97	109	113	102	100	96	82	95	104	96	92	85
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	135	131	154	157	148	136	134	136	137	153	145	133	123

Public sector, defence, community	244	208	212	207	223	210	194	189	169	201	188	174	171
Research and development	115	98	115	115	110	110	105	113	101	109	101	95	94
Sales	133	113	128	126	124	123	123	129	121	131	125	119	114
Transport, post and logistics	64	63	68	69	69	66	66	69	67	68	63	59	56

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

Occupation	Feb 11	Jan 11	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10
Managers	111	104	120	119	118	114	111	117	120	128	122	117	105
Professionals	104	92	106	107	102	100	99	98	96	107	102	95	89
Technicians and associate professionals	113	102	113	113	111	109	110	111	108	115	112	108	99
Clerical support workers	93	85	90	88	86	85	89	92	90	95	93	85	78
Service and sales workers	106	108	109	112	112	109	107	104	101	110	104	95	90
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	123	106	108	115	118	129	127	124	129	141	141	124	104
Craft and related workers	131	113	117	120	122	108	100	107	106	113	109	107	101
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	154	142	166	169	162	155	148	141	148	162	150	128	119
Elementary occupations	131	127	135	134	133	128	125	126	126	123	119	112	109

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

Region	Feb 11	Jan 11	Dec 10	Nov 10	Oct 10	Sep 10	Aug 10	Jul 10	Jun 10	May 10	Apr 10	Mar 10	Feb 10
Brussels-Capital	79	68	74	76	74	73	74	74	71	76	77	74	69
Flemish Region	121	109	119	118	117	114	112	116	115	121	115	109	101
Walloon Region	105	94	104	106	102	106	100	101	94	100	94	94	94

Monster Employment Index Belgium for February will be released on April 12, 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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