

Online Worker Demand Dips in January, According to Monster Employment Index Belgium

January 2010 Index Highlights

- The Monster Employment Index Belgium declined 11 points (11 percent) in January, establishing a new historical low; Year-on-year the Index fell 12 percent
- Construction and extraction noted the largest monthly drop in the industry sectors, whereas job availability in environment, architecture, urbanism increased the most in January
- All regions noted fewer job offerings; The Walloon region noted the sharpest decline whilst Brussels-Capital exhibited weakest fall

Summary Overview

Online recruitment has started the year off sluggishly in Belgium, with the Index showing weaker results in January compared to December 2009. Despite a decline for the overall employment market, expanded recruitment activity was noted in the environment and educational sectors in the January 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:

Jan 10	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09
87	98	99	98	106	104	106	102	101	107	110	102	99

“Online recruitment activity and related job opportunities in Belgium remained muted at the beginning of 2010, resulting in a new historical low for the Index,” commented Bernard Hensmans, country manager of Monster Belgium. “Positive trends are emerging however, as demand for workers was relatively strong for this time of the year in the accounting and banking sectors suggesting improvements in underlying financial sector conditions to start the year.”

Construction and extraction register steepest decline in online recruitment activity at the onset of 2010

The majority of industry sectors registered decreased online job availability in January; construction and extraction reported the steepest rate of decline, dipping 23 points (19 percent). Research and development saw the steepest decline on an annual basis, declining by 32 points, (28 percent).

Accounting, audit, taxes noted a minor decrease compared to December 2009, dipping two points (two percent) in January. Year-on-year, demand fell 32 points (25 percent). Banking, finance and insurance opportunities dipped four points (five percent) in January. Overall the financial sector has seen a firming in underlying demand trends over the past few months, although annual growth remains weak relative to other industry sectors.

Environment, architecture, urbanism reported the sharpest increase in online job demand in January, rebounding from the previous month's weak reading. Demand grew 12 points (14 percent).

From an annual perspective, four industry sectors noted increased job offerings. Production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair led all sectors forward with an eight point (eight percent) increase compared to year-earlier figures.

Online worker demand fell across all occupational groups

All occupational groups reported a slowdown in online worker demand in January. Online recruitment continued to fall in elementary occupations, which dipped nine points (eight percent). Managers recorded the steepest monthly drop, with offerings down 22 points (18 percent). The sector currently has one of the weaker three month online recruitment trends with offerings down 16 percent over the past quarter.

Skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers reported the smallest dip; offering fell, six points (five percent). Year-on-year, online recruitment activity was down 23 percent.

All regions report slowing online opportunities

The Walloon region noted the sharpest monthly and annual declines; opportunities fell 10 points (11 percent) in January. Year-on-year, the region fell 21 percent.

The Flemish region edged 11 points (10 percent) lower compared to December 2009, falling further from the recent November 2009 peak. Despite this, the region continued to be the only Belgian region to exhibit growth from an annual perspective, up two percent compared to January 2009.

Brussels-Capital notched a mild three point (four percent) decline as online recruitment pulled back after a December uptick. The latest decline was less pronounced than seasonally expected, indicating some strengthening in underlying demand conditions for new workers in the capital region.

Best performing sectors

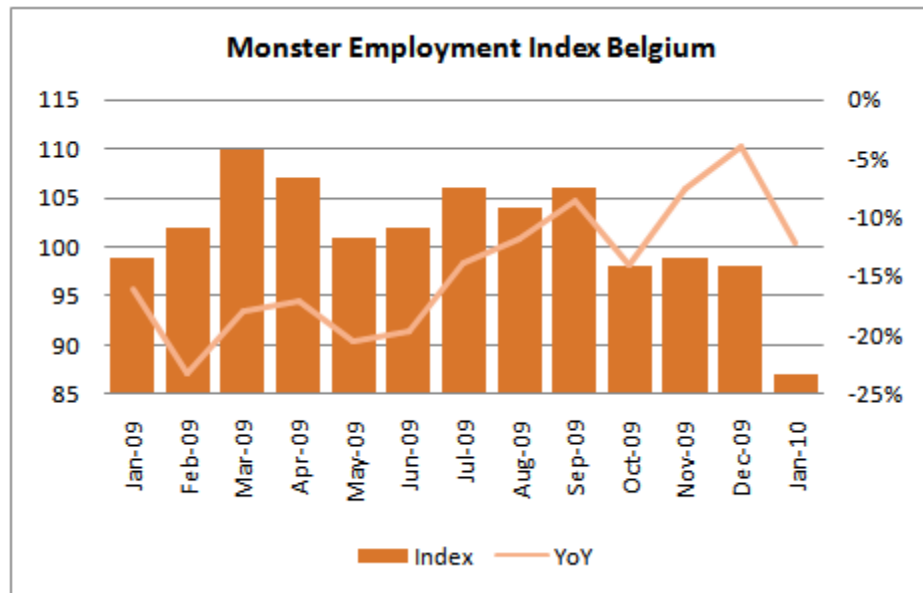
Industry sectors showing the greatest rate of increase in online job availability included:

Month-on-month

Industry	Jan 10	Dec 09	%
Environment, architecture, urbanism	98	86	14%
Education, training and library	130	126	3%
HR	86	86	0%
Accounting, audit, taxes	98	100	-2%
Legal	98	100	-2%

Year-on-year

Industry	Jan 10	Jan 09	%
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	103	95	8%
Management and consulting	108	102	6%
Healthcare, social work	128	121	6%
Environment, architecture, urbanism	98	96	2%
Sales	103	105	-2%



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

Industry	Jan 10	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09
Accounting, audit, taxes	98	100	109	111	111	109	116	117	113	123	134	135	130
Administrative, organisation	68	76	75	76	87	86	86	79	81	88	91	85	87
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	116	121	123	134	145	150	140	149	156	155	151	147	141
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	69	85	84	79	81	85	88	87	94	94	96	89	80
Banking, finance, insurance	75	79	78	77	93	87	83	75	75	87	96	87	94
Construction and extraction	99	122	120	115	112	111	118	120	124	125	125	111	104
Education, training and library	130	126	121	128	159	180	165	165	161	159	166	150	154
Engineering	93	107	105	100	111	116	123	111	110	120	130	110	102
Environment, architecture, urbanism	98	86	97	94	99	95	117	111	112	118	108	106	96
Healthcare, social work	128	145	152	159	178	172	175	170	166	162	155	133	121
Hospitality and tourism	66	72	71	71	82	85	86	94	92	89	83	77	72
HR	86	86	87	87	92	92	92	84	82	87	88	89	97
IT	67	77	75	74	86	89	93	92	90	104	108	105	105
Legal	98	100	97	99	110	108	109	104	100	107	107	108	109
Management and consulting	108	118	115	111	120	120	120	116	115	118	122	112	102
Marketing, PR and media	71	73	77	83	92	92	86	85	84	88	90	90	85
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	103	111	109	106	120	115	124	116	113	117	124	104	95
Public sector, defence, community	146	171	172	168	186	193	186	163	169	192	190	175	166
Research and development	82	93	99	98	109	108	113	115	109	115	117	115	114
Sales	103	117	118	119	129	125	124	118	117	121	125	115	105
Transport, post and logistics	51	55	53	55	54	54	53	51	50	51	53	51	55

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

Occupation	Jan 10	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09
Managers	99	121	122	118	133	134	134	125	123	129	131	115	109
Professionals	79	87	86	86	96	96	100	97	96	106	111	108	107
Technicians and associate professionals	92	102	101	101	111	110	109	102	101	106	111	99	93
Clerical support workers	74	82	80	80	91	91	90	83	85	92	95	90	92
Service and sales workers	85	96	94	96	105	108	102	105	104	101	94	81	73
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	109	115	117	130	143	149	138	148	156	155	151	147	141
Craft and related workers	87	104	99	96	107	101	105	106	106	110	119	105	88
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	107	121	121	118	117	118	126	118	116	124	120	119	118
Elementary occupations	111	120	121	119	122	119	119	112	107	106	105	97	98

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

Region	Jan 10	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09
Brussels-Capital	69	72	71	73	81	79	76	73	72	80	87	84	73
Flemish Region	94	105	106	104	111	110	113	108	107	110	114	96	92
Walloon Region	85	95	98	102	105	101	105	101	99	107	110	110	108

Monster Employment Index Belgium for February will be released on March 9, 2010.

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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associated with acquisitions, competition, seasonality and the other risks discussed in Monster Worldwide's Form 10-K/A and other filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which discussions are incorporated in this release by reference.

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