



Online Recruitment Activity Continues to Fall in Belgium and Across All Major European Markets

August 2008 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Belgium dropped five points in August, continuing the downward trend started in March. The Index was down 15 points, or 11 percent year-on-year
- Marketing, PR and media; and arts, entertainment, sports and leisure registered the steepest monthly declines
- Management and consulting; and administrative, organization registered the greatest year-on-year downfall
- By contrast, the only sector to see a rise in online job availability was education, training and library which noted solid gains
- Six of the occupational groups saw a decline, with service, shop and market sales workers the only group to register a slight increase
- All regional areas saw a decline in online demand, with the Walloon region having a mild downtrend for the fifth month relative to the capital and Flemish areas.

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Belgium dropped five points in August. Year-on-year the Index was down 15 points, or eleven percent, representing a fifth month of sustained contraction in online recruiting activity. 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 Europe, including Monster.be.

Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
118	123	127	127	129	134	133	118	127	125	127	136	133

“Although the National Bank of Belgium indicates slowly increasing employer confidence in Belgium in August, macro-economic indicators are more negative. Analysts warn for a delay in growth of the European and world economy,” commented Bernard Hensmans, country manager Monster Belgium. “The significant negative trend in our most important export markets, France, UK, The Netherlands and last but not least Germany has a negative impact on the Belgian economy, as the Belgian industry is characterized by component manufacturers. Belgian HR managers and recruiters are obviously putting off recruitment decisions until a more positive business climate.”

Marketing, PR and media reports sharp decline in online job demand for second month

Marketing, PR and media recorded a sharp decline of 19 points in August. Not only were the monthly figures down, the sector has performed poorly in the year-on-year comparison, dropping 19 percent August represented the sector's lowest annual rate of growth in the Index to date.

Arts, entertainment, sports and leisure also recorded a large drop in online availability, plunging 16 points in August after two months of increase. Despite this, the sector is still up 15 points year-on-year.

Education, training and library demand rebounded in August, rising by eight points after two months of moderate declines. The sector was up 36 points, or 27 percent, year-on-year, making it one of the fastest growing areas in the Index. Hospitality and tourism, remained unchanged in the August Index, but stayed 14 points below its February peak.

Majority of occupational groups registered decline in August

Clerks logged a decline of 12 points in August, unmatched by any other occupational group. The August decline stretches the cooling trend in the clerks category to five consecutive months. Reduced job offerings were registered in the administrative and organisation; banking, finance and insurance; and sales sectors. Year-on-year the category was down 24 points, or 18 percent.

Technicians and associate professionals also fell in August. The nine point decline was largely attributed to decreased demand in the accounting, audit, taxes; and marketing, PR and media sectors, following somewhat stepped-up hiring in the early summer. Year-on-year, the category was down 11 points, or nine percent.

Service, shop and market sales workers edged slightly higher after a month of sharp decline. The increase reflects higher demand in the marketing, PR and media; and sales sectors. In comparison, job availability for these workers in the hospitality and tourism sector registered a slight decline. Year-on-year, the category was down 18 points, or 14 percent.

All regions register drop in online demand, with a slower declining trend in the Walloon Region

All regions registered a decline in August, with Brussels-Capital showing the greatest fall, dropping ten points from July's slightly elevated level; followed by the Flemish region, which saw a nine point drop; and the Walloon region dipping by four points. Walloon had the lowest decrease among all regions for the fifth consecutive month.

In the Brussels-Capital region, the drop was mainly due to the cooled job availability in the accounting audit and taxes; legal; and research and development sectors. Growth was seen in education, training and library; healthcare, social work; and HR. Year-on-year, demand in the region was down 11 points, or eight percent.

The Flemish region continued the declining trend started in April. The month's deepest dip was in public sector, defence and community. In contrast, legal, agriculture, fishing and forestry; and education, training and library sectors, saw upward movement in August after a month of decline. The region was down 18 points, or 14 percent, the sharpest decline among all regions. The Walloon region was down 12 points year-on-year.

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

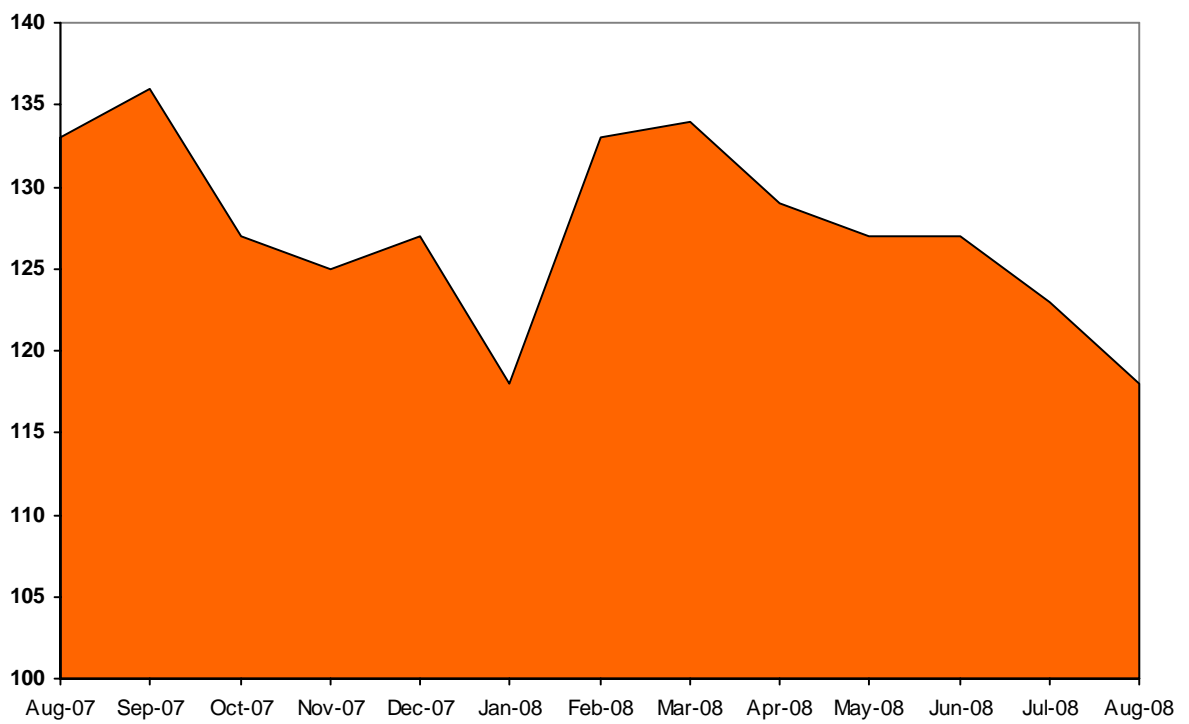
Region	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Brussels-Capital	120	130	128	128	133	141	144	105	126	129	131	152	131
Flemish Region	113	122	129	129	133	142	139	119	133	129	129	136	131
Walloon Region	118	122	124	125	127	130	128	116	122	123	126	128	130

Top Industries Looking for Employees

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

Industry	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08
Education, training and library	169	161	165
Hospitality and tourism	108	108	121
HR	132	132	143
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	147	147	149

Monster Employment Index Belgium



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

Industry	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	152	164	178	176	175	182	182	151	162	162	173	181	178
Administrative, organisation	106	118	119	119	123	129	123	107	114	113	113	136	136
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	147	147	149	141	138	133	132	129	123	129	137	114	121
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	145	161	159	152	156	152	154	137	157	138	144	136	130
Banking, finance, insurance	108	114	114	123	123	131	127	94	117	122	119	123	114
Construction and extraction	111	117	115	114	115	115	115	109	114	113	115	132	126
Education, training and library	169	161	165	169	165	171	159	155	151	144	152	137	133
Engineering	121	135	137	131	140	145	145	123	143	137	140	148	136
Environment, architecture, urbanism	105	113	111	113	123	119	117	110	119	112	113	115	115
Healthcare, social work	125	129	131	131	133	135	144	131	136	134	136	136	134
Hospitality and tourism	108	108	121	119	120	120	122	118	120	118	123	128	125
HR	132	132	143	152	143	154	151	133	150	148	141	156	149
IT	114	115	117	118	119	121	120	112	115	116	119	124	123
Legal	121	128	133	129	125	147	155	127	149	146	149	154	147
Management and consulting	111	115	116	118	119	123	124	115	132	119	120	147	145
Marketing, PR and media	114	133	135	128	134	143	146	116	129	136	128	143	140
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	113	118	121	120	125	136	138	117	129	128	127	129	122
Public sector, defence, community	173	182	181	155	171	163	171	143	145	154	158	129	124
Research and development	121	125	124	126	130	133	131	119	127	128	131	134	131
Sales	125	133	142	141	144	151	150	131	141	138	139	144	138
Transport, post and logistics	119	129	128	129	136	144	142	121	127	128	124	130	129

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

Occupation	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	115	120	122	123	125	128	130	121	139	125	125	152	150
Professionals	120	124	127	128	130	135	133	118	126	127	130	135	132
Technicians and associate professionals	118	127	129	128	133	139	139	119	128	127	128	135	129
Clerks	111	123	124	125	128	134	129	111	119	117	118	135	135
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	111	110	124	126	126	126	130	116	125	123	125	132	129
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	147	147	149	141	138	133	133	129	123	129	137	114	121
Craft and related workers	95	100	103	102	105	112	110	101	106	107	107	107	108
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	145	151	154	151	156	159	159	142	150	150	149	151	148
Elementary occupations	119	119	119	119	120	124	123	117	122	121	123	136	130

Monster Employment Index Belgium for September will be released on October 14, 2008.

About The Monster Employment Index Belgium

Providing a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand, the Monster Employment Index Belgium is an extension of the Monster Employment Index Europe, which is compiled each month by researchers at Monster Worldwide Europe.

Launched in June 2005, the Monster Employment Index Europe provides monthly insight into recruitment trends across the European Union. The Index report is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from Web sites across Europe, including Monster®. The Index is audited by Research America, Inc. and provides analyses of online job demand within occupational categories, industry sectors and regions.

Monthly Index reports for Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Europe are available at:

http://corporate.monster.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp.

About Monster Worldwide

Monster Worldwide, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNST), 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 and the NASDAQ 100. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit www.monster.com.

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