



## Monster Employment Index France Continues Declining Trend in December as Online Job Demand Reaches Eleven-Month Low

### December 2008 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index France slumped 16 points in December, reaching an eleven-month low. Year-on-year the Index fell 29 points, or 19 percent.
- The engineering sector saw sharply reduced online recruitment activity, while the accounting, HR, and sales sectors also registered steep declines
- In contrast, opportunities in the hospitality and tourism; and arts, entertainment, sports and leisure sectors increased, in part due to seasonal recruitment activity
- All occupational groups showed reduced online opportunities, with managers registering the sharpest decline
- Online job availability plummeted in all regions with Ile de France exhibiting the sharpest annual decline

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index France slipped 16 points in December, marking the second consecutive month of decline, as opportunities fell sharply in the engineering; and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. Year-on-year the Index was down 29 points, or 19 percent. 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.fr.

Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
127	143	158	155	160	169	171	159	161	160	167	140	156

“The slump in online recruitment activity in December primarily reflects slower hiring in the goods-producing sector. Demand for workers in industries such as manufacturing has been impacted by falling industrial output throughout the Eurozone, according to Eurostat,” said Bruno Brémont, vice president of Monster France and Southern Europe. “Despite the overall weaker demand in December, the leisure and hospitality sectors experienced robust recruiting ahead of the ski season.”

**Online job opportunities in engineering plummet**

Engineering opportunities slumped 37 points in December, leaving the sector at its lowest Index reading since February 2007. Professionals registered the largest decline among occupational groups within the sector, whilst a significant decline was also noted for technicians and associate professionals. All regions registered fewer opportunities, with Rhone Alpes exhibiting the sharpest decline. Year-on-year the sector was down 32 points, or 19 percent.

December marked the sixth consecutive month of decline for the accounting, audit and taxes industry as the category fell 21 points. Opportunities declined most for technicians and associate professionals. Year-on-year the sector was down 41 points, or 21 percent.

Online job offerings in the hospitality and tourism sector climbed two points in December, following four months of decline. The sector experienced higher demand for service and sales workers. Regionally, Rhone Alpes and West registered significant increases in demand. However, year-on-year the sector was down 22 points, or 19 percent. Arts, entertainment, sports and leisure also grew, halting its declining trend edging up two points.

**All occupational groups register weaker online job demand**

Online job offerings for managers slumped 23 points in December, following weaker demand in the accounting, audit, taxes; and banking, finance and insurance sectors. In contrast, the construction and extraction; and transport, post and logistics sector edged slightly higher in December. Year-on-year the occupational group was down 27 points, or 17 percent.

Craft and related workers registered fewer opportunities for the fourth consecutive month, as opportunities fell 21 points. The production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector noted the sharpest rate of decline. Conversely, the construction and extraction; and arts, entertainment, sports and leisure sectors registered increased opportunities for the occupational group. All regions noted weaker demand for the workers, with the West exhibiting the largest decline.

**Ile de France registers the sharpest decline in online opportunities for second consecutive month**

Online job demand eased sharply in Ile de France in December, falling 22 points and marking the region's lowest Index level since February 2007. The environment, architecture and urbanism sector noted the sharpest decline in opportunities among industry sectors. However, online job availability in the arts, entertainment, sport, and leisure sector increased. Service and sales workers noted the sharpest decline among occupational groups, as all other groups also declined. Year-on-year the region was down 26 points, or 21 percent, the sharpest decline among regions.

Rhone Alpes fell 10 points in December, marking the second month of decline for the region. The public, defence and community sector saw the sharpest fall in online job demand, whereas the arts, entertainment, sports and leisure sector registered the strongest growth in December. The education, training and library; and legal sectors also saw increased online recruitment activity. Among occupational groups, clerical support workers registered a sharp fall in online worker demand, whilst service and

sales workers registered a significant increase. Year-on-year demand in the region was down 12 points, or 10 percent.

**Top Growth Sectors Month-to-month**

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

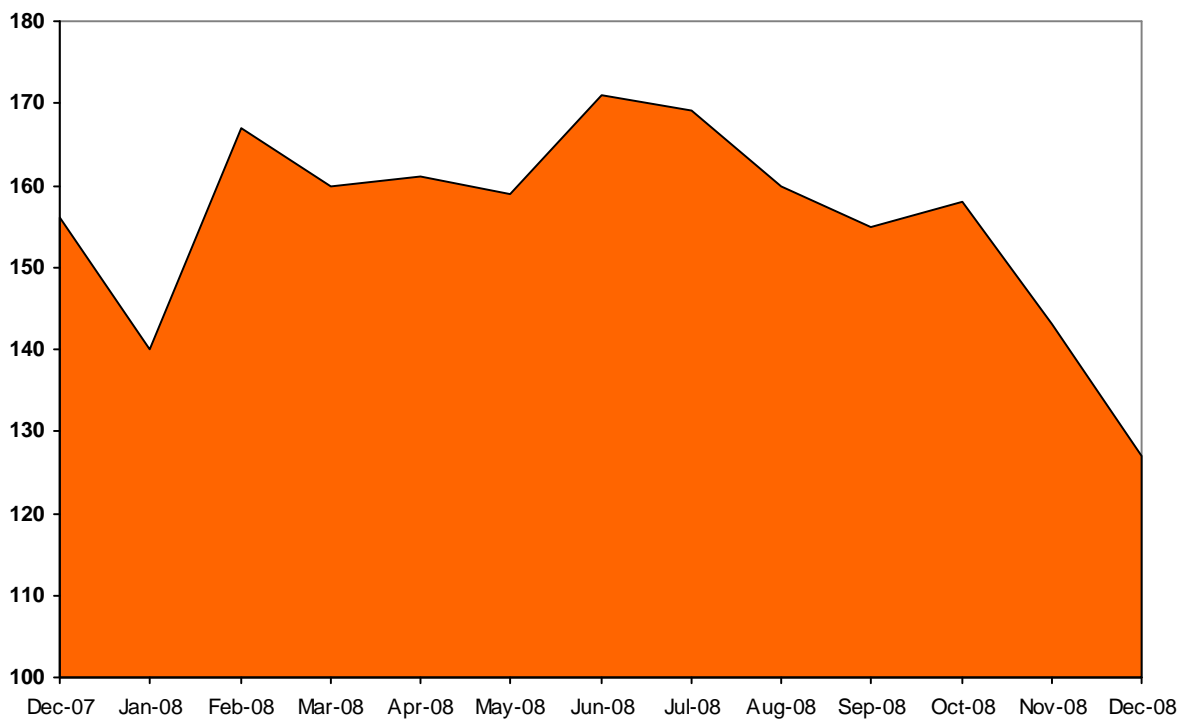
Industry	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08
Hospitality and tourism	91	89	123
Arts, entertainment, sport and leisure	150	148	149
Legal	113	112	115

**Top Growth Sectors Year-on-year**

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

Industry	Dec 08	Nov 08	Dec 07
Arts, entertainment, sport and leisure	150	148	131
Banking, finance, insurance	80	83	74
Administrative, organisation	116	120	115

### Monster Employment Index France



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

Industry	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	151	172	175	177	180	197	209	193	192	195	212	176	192
Administrative, organisation	116	120	125	119	128	124	126	121	130	123	130	105	115
Arts, entertainment, sport and leisure	150	148	149	151	152	151	138	136	137	136	132	130	131
Automotive	147	152	152	176	186	172	163	163	160	174	178	154	164
Banking, finance, insurance	80	83	90	88	94	88	83	85	80	76	79	76	74
Construction and extraction	157	175	184	188	198	179	182	171	167	168	172	154	163
Education, training and library	85	87	90	87	88	91	91	89	87	89	95	88	89
Engineering	134	171	191	198	196	172	179	166	169	172	178	154	166
Environment, architecture, urbanism	116	128	140	127	130	134	138	136	135	130	139	123	133
Healthcare, social work	125	133	179	145	155	157	172	167	167	170	172	141	158
Hospitality and tourism	91	89	123	153	182	220	177	170	150	175	149	121	113
HR	123	139	155	146	152	164	177	163	173	173	181	150	162
IT	115	120	126	122	125	126	126	114	118	113	120	108	120
Legal	113	112	115	106	115	102	101	104	111	127	128	109	119
Management and consulting	148	164	177	161	165	183	174	167	176	169	170	147	169
Marketing, PR and media	96	99	104	97	101	106	104	104	108	106	106	98	104
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	137	148	158	153	164	167	184	175	175	170	176	154	171
Public sector, defence, community	139	157	151	154	159	145	138	119	118	129	154	140	141
Real estate	170	177	178	177	184	200	200	201	212	190	184	172	175
Research and development	166	185	202	180	188	196	193	192	195	199	206	173	187
Sales	132	150	173	152	151	174	179	165	175	171	176	144	166
Transport, post and logistics	103	112	130	162	180	189	194	182	184	178	176	151	165

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

<b>Occupation Group</b>	<b>Dec 08</b>	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Managers	129	152	176	140	148	166	164	153	165	158	164	129	156
Professionals	149	167	181	173	180	174	175	164	169	169	178	150	165
Technicians and associate professionals	141	152	166	153	153	165	167	159	166	160	165	144	158
Clerical support workers	91	104	114	119	133	127	136	123	120	118	121	91	106
Service and sales workers	69	71	82	102	126	164	124	111	89	111	91	81	87
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	68	71	73	74	76	93	95	83	85	84	108	104	109
Craft and related workers	213	234	251	260	279	272	275	258	239	222	239	207	227
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	149	162	174	191	214	182	201	190	179	174	174	145	155
Elementary occupations	121	127	149	115	121	148	175	172	206	178	152	133	180

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

<b>Region</b>	<b>Dec 08</b>	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Ile de France	100	122	139	133	135	156	154	141	135	133	137	108	126
East	96	100	105	103	106	106	108	105	107	106	109	99	104
North	124	130	135	133	140	139	143	137	139	137	142	126	135
West	104	110	116	113	118	118	121	116	118	121	125	113	120
South-West	87	89	93	92	96	101	95	93	93	91	94	89	93
Rhone Alpes	111	121	130	124	128	135	136	128	129	126	131	117	123
Mediterranean	97	100	104	102	105	106	106	104	106	105	108	101	106

Monster Employment Index France for January will be released on February 10, 2009.

### **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://corporate.monster.com/Press\\_Room/MEI\\_EU.asp](http://corporate.monster.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp).

### **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 and the NYSE. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com). More information about Monster Worldwide is available at <http://corporate.monster.com/>

**Special Note:** Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Except for historical information contained herein, the statements made in this release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding Monster Worldwide, Inc.'s strategic direction, prospects and future results. Certain factors, including factors outside of Monster Worldwide's control, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements, including economic and other conditions in the markets in which Monster Worldwide operates, risks 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.

### **CONTACTS:**

Weber Shandwick for Monster

Séverine Saint Hubert

+33 | 47 59 35 76

[SSaintHubert@WeberShandwick.com](mailto:SSaintHubert@WeberShandwick.com)