



Monster Employment Index Italy Shows a Slump in Italian Online Job Opportunities, as All Sectors Report Lower Demand

August 2008 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Italy dropped 14 points in August, after two months of growth
- Year-on-year growth remained up 20 points, or 14 percent, reflecting the continued expansion in the internet recruitment advertising market
- All industry sectors showed reduced online opportunities, with accounting, audit and taxes; sales; and hospitality and tourism seeing the greatest drops
- Demand dropped for the majority of the occupational groups.
- Online job demand fell across all regions in August with the islands of Sardinia and Sicilia noticing the largest declines, following growth in the previous two months

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Italy measured a 14 point drop in August, after two months of solid growth. August saw a 14 percent year-on-year growth, showing a continued growth in the availability of online job opportunities. 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.it.

| 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 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 165 | 179 | 175 | 171 | 172 | 172 | 155 | 143 | 158 | 153 | 143 | 144 | 145 |

“The downturn in the Italian online job market is not unusual for this time of year, as most employers take a break from hiring due to the traditional holiday month.” said Nicola Rossi, Country Manager, Monster Italy. “Despite the Italian economy going through a rough patch, there are still areas where employee demand is not being met. Conversely, certain sectors, such as sales have been hit by signs of lack of consumer confidence, along with a slow down in consumer spending.”

Accounting, audit and taxes registers a sharp decline, despite very positive year-on-year growth

Accounting, audit, and taxes, felt the largest industry drop during August, reflecting lower demand for professionals. However, online job availability remained up 64 points, or 34 percent higher than a year ago. This rise was the highest annual rate of growth amongst all sectors despite growth slowing since its peak in the second quarter.

The sales sector saw a demand decline, by 24 points in August, after two months of growth. The one percent year-on-year increase was the lowest reading on record. Demand eased most for professionals, while service, shop and market sales workers bounced back slightly, after two months of reduced demand.

Hospitality and tourism also decreased by 24 points in August, following two months of increased demand during the build up to the holiday season. The decrease is due, in part to less demand for service workers and shop and market sales workers. Despite this drop the sector is still 17 points up on last years figures.

All occupational groups hit by the slowdown in online job demand

Online opportunities for clerks fell back 26 points in August, after two months of increased demand. The drop was particularly in the administrative, organisation; and sales sectors. Year-on-year this sector shows a positive growth, of 51 points, or 28 percent, which represents the highest growth throughout all occupational groups.

August saw a continuation of the negative trend for demand in the service, shop and market sales workers group. The group dropped by 22 points, yet still managed to grow year-on-year by 10 points. The greatest decline was seen in the hospitality and tourism sector, which registered a decline in online job availability for the second month.

All regions registered a decline in online job offerings

Sardinia felt the biggest hit in August, with the level of online opportunities dropping by 29 points, after two months of increase. Within the region, major declines were seen in administration and organisation; sales; and telecommunications. However, offerings rose in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector for the second month. Job availability for clerks and professionals fell in the region. The region grew by seven points, year-on-year.

A similar decline was seen in the Sicilia region, after a significant three months of growth. Administrative, organisation; and hospitality and tourism registered the worst decreases. On the upside, the management and consulting sector registered increased opportunities for the third consecutive month. Year-on-year, the sector grew five points.

Despite its 14 point drop in August, Lombardia is now the top growth region on an annual basis for the first time on record, reporting a 26 point, or 18 percent increase. This is partly due to the strong growth in sectors such as accounting; engineering; IT; and manufacturing.

Top Five Growth Sectors Year-On-Year

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

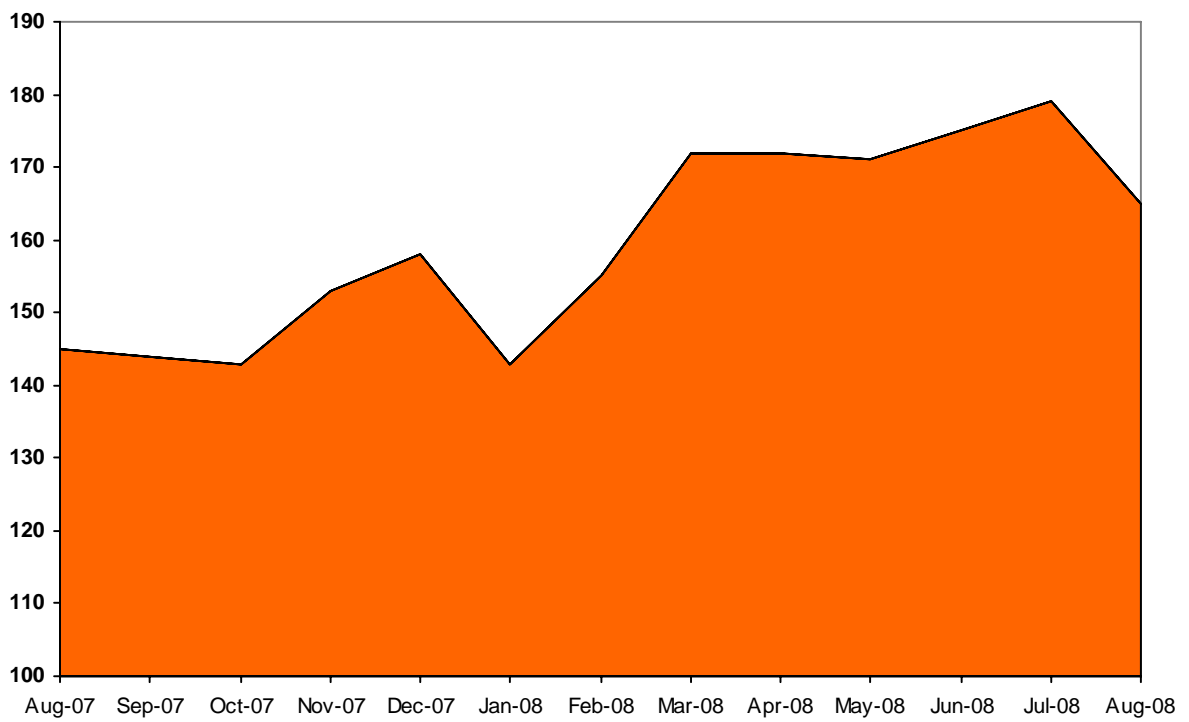
| Industry | Aug 08 | Aug 07 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Accounting, audit, taxes | 253 | 189 |
| Administrative, organisation | 236 | 184 |
| Engineering | 203 | 152 |
| Healthcare, social work, personal care | 178 | 136 |
| Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair | 210 | 169 |

Top Five Growth Regions Year-On-Year

Regional categories registering most significant increases in online job demand year-on-year included:

| Region | Aug 08 | Aug 07 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Lombardia | 169 | 143 |
| Piemonte | 166 | 142 |
| Veneto | 176 | 158 |
| Friuli-Venezia Giulia | 146 | 129 |
| Lazio | 157 | 143 |

Monster Employment Index Italy



Monster Employment Index Italy 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 | 253 | 303 | 312 | 295 | 279 | 270 | 242 | 199 | 228 | 217 | 192 | 189 | 189 |
| Administrative, organisation | 236 | 258 | 238 | 228 | 231 | 227 | 201 | 176 | 198 | 188 | 174 | 167 | 184 |
| Arts, entertainment, sport, leisure | 148 | 161 | 158 | 153 | 150 | 164 | 155 | 143 | 152 | 142 | 144 | 132 | 148 |
| Banking, finance, insurance | 107 | 114 | 112 | 113 | 115 | 115 | 105 | 98 | 103 | 105 | 104 | 96 | 103 |
| Construction and extraction | 171 | 176 | 174 | 170 | 171 | 168 | 155 | 152 | 161 | 157 | 146 | 143 | 152 |
| Education, training and library | 127 | 135 | 141 | 148 | 148 | 150 | 153 | 158 | 165 | 164 | 198 | 214 | 161 |
| Engineering | 203 | 217 | 227 | 222 | 225 | 215 | 190 | 166 | 181 | 178 | 156 | 141 | 152 |
| Environment, architecture, urbanism | 118 | 123 | 118 | 117 | 122 | 119 | 114 | 117 | 118 | 116 | 108 | 101 | 106 |
| Healthcare, social work, personal care | 178 | 184 | 175 | 170 | 157 | 155 | 144 | 136 | 145 | 144 | 130 | 123 | 136 |
| Hospitality and tourism | 171 | 195 | 190 | 181 | 189 | 178 | 158 | 156 | 160 | 161 | 142 | 143 | 153 |
| HR | 149 | 160 | 167 | 165 | 166 | 168 | 150 | 133 | 171 | 157 | 138 | 137 | 132 |
| IT | 128 | 132 | 132 | 133 | 134 | 136 | 129 | 122 | 128 | 125 | 121 | 141 | 125 |
| Legal | 167 | 175 | 162 | 163 | 173 | 175 | 142 | 142 | 162 | 151 | 140 | 146 | 133 |
| Management and consulting | 124 | 126 | 128 | 127 | 130 | 132 | 130 | 124 | 127 | 125 | 128 | 141 | 126 |
| Marketing, PR and media | 136 | 147 | 141 | 134 | 143 | 148 | 127 | 120 | 131 | 128 | 125 | 117 | 134 |
| Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair | 210 | 226 | 211 | 202 | 205 | 201 | 188 | 170 | 189 | 176 | 159 | 155 | 169 |
| Public Sector, defence, community | 127 | 136 | 118 | 118 | 117 | 118 | 117 | 116 | 117 | 116 | 116 | 116 | 117 |
| Real estate | 106 | 110 | 112 | 114 | 115 | 112 | 109 | 112 | 113 | 112 | 109 | 107 | 109 |
| Research and development | 156 | 173 | 174 | 176 | 177 | 176 | 160 | 137 | 162 | 143 | 130 | 133 | 137 |
| Sales | 157 | 181 | 178 | 173 | 176 | 184 | 164 | 152 | 175 | 174 | 166 | 151 | 156 |
| Telecommunication | 95 | 102 | 105 | 105 | 103 | 106 | 99 | 100 | 108 | 117 | 112 | 102 | 113 |
| Transport, post and logistics | 201 | 215 | 212 | 205 | 209 | 204 | 182 | 171 | 188 | 181 | 163 | 162 | 175 |

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

| Occupation Group | 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 | 189 | 202 | 206 | 206 | 218 | 222 | 202 | 177 | 195 | 180 | 178 | 221 | 174 |
| Professionals | 144 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 155 | 144 | 131 | 143 | 138 | 131 | 142 | 132 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 138 | 152 | 149 | 145 | 148 | 148 | 135 | 130 | 143 | 143 | 135 | 123 | 132 |
| Clerks | 233 | 259 | 240 | 227 | 230 | 232 | 198 | 173 | 194 | 183 | 171 | 171 | 182 |
| Service workers and shop and market sales workers | 162 | 184 | 187 | 181 | 187 | 178 | 156 | 154 | 159 | 158 | 147 | 143 | 152 |
| Skilled agricultural and fishery workers | 128 | 126 | 128 | 132 | 127 | 126 | 121 | 118 | 114 | 116 | 110 | 115 | 121 |
| Craft and related workers | 200 | 210 | 210 | 203 | 203 | 197 | 177 | 171 | 186 | 176 | 160 | 154 | 171 |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers | 234 | 250 | 243 | 228 | 234 | 230 | 200 | 184 | 204 | 193 | 172 | 169 | 186 |
| Elementary occupations | 112 | 118 | 118 | 120 | 116 | 118 | 113 | 113 | 112 | 115 | 117 | 116 | 112 |

Monster Employment Index Italy 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 |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Abruzzo | 133 | 143 | 140 | 139 | 141 | 139 | 138 | 128 | 135 | 136 | 137 | 133 | 133 |
| Basilicata | 121 | 134 | 134 | 135 | 139 | 132 | 141 | 116 | 125 | 128 | 130 | 122 | 119 |
| Calabria | 117 | 132 | 134 | 133 | 142 | 137 | 145 | 123 | 134 | 136 | 134 | 126 | 123 |
| Campania | 125 | 140 | 141 | 140 | 147 | 147 | 144 | 126 | 140 | 139 | 135 | 126 | 125 |
| Emilia-Romagna | 160 | 175 | 173 | 171 | 174 | 176 | 158 | 145 | 161 | 155 | 148 | 147 | 149 |
| Friuli-Venezia Giulia | 146 | 159 | 155 | 149 | 158 | 154 | 151 | 135 | 144 | 139 | 139 | 138 | 129 |
| Lazio | 157 | 175 | 169 | 168 | 171 | 179 | 164 | 143 | 163 | 156 | 142 | 139 | 143 |
| Liguria | 138 | 145 | 145 | 145 | 153 | 152 | 148 | 128 | 139 | 136 | 134 | 130 | 130 |
| Lombardia | 169 | 183 | 177 | 173 | 172 | 176 | 160 | 140 | 160 | 153 | 142 | 144 | 143 |
| Marche | 148 | 163 | 155 | 151 | 160 | 152 | 149 | 132 | 145 | 147 | 145 | 136 | 136 |
| Molise | 117 | 126 | 125 | 127 | 135 | 129 | 137 | 118 | 125 | 127 | 127 | 125 | 120 |
| Piemonte | 166 | 181 | 176 | 173 | 173 | 178 | 159 | 140 | 156 | 150 | 141 | 137 | 142 |
| Puglia | 129 | 144 | 140 | 138 | 145 | 143 | 140 | 124 | 136 | 136 | 135 | 129 | 127 |
| Sardinia | 139 | 168 | 166 | 161 | 172 | 157 | 170 | 131 | 144 | 147 | 148 | 131 | 132 |
| Sicilia | 133 | 158 | 150 | 144 | 157 | 151 | 153 | 122 | 143 | 153 | 150 | 128 | 128 |
| Toscana | 152 | 165 | 165 | 158 | 160 | 161 | 156 | 139 | 153 | 149 | 139 | 143 | 142 |
| Trentino Alto-Adige | 131 | 139 | 141 | 143 | 152 | 150 | 145 | 134 | 140 | 141 | 145 | 141 | 134 |
| Umbria | 135 | 152 | 149 | 145 | 153 | 149 | 152 | 135 | 145 | 142 | 131 | 129 | 128 |
| Valle d' Aosta | 122 | 136 | 135 | 139 | 147 | 141 | 153 | 122 | 131 | 132 | 129 | 123 | 122 |
| Veneto | 176 | 190 | 187 | 183 | 188 | 187 | 167 | 155 | 171 | 163 | 150 | 155 | 158 |

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

About The Monster Employment Index Italy

Providing a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand, the Monster Employment Index Italy is an extension of the Monster Employment Index Europe, which is compiled each month by researchers at Monster Worldwide Europe. With data collected since April of 2006, the Monster Employment Index Italy was launched in April of 2008 and is based on millions of online job opportunities culled from different websites across Europe, including Monster.it.

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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