

Online Job Offerings in the Netherlands Continue Decreasing Trend in September, According to Monster Employment Index

September 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Netherlands dipped four points in September, the second consecutive month of decline
- Online worker demand eased across all industry sectors, with the exception of HR, where opportunities remained stable
- Hiring retracted the most in Zeeland following an uptick in August; Groningen and Flevoland bucked the overall declining trend

Summary Overview

The decreasing trend in online job offerings in the Netherlands was extended in September, with the economic downturn continuing to affect Dutch online recruitment. Key sectors for the Dutch economy such as logistics and manufacturing reported fewer opportunities reflecting the contributed sluggish global trading environment. However, public driven sectors such as healthcare and social work are elevated compared to year-earlier figures.

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 Monsterboard.nl.

Monster Employment Index Netherlands findings for the past 13 months are as follows:

Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08
86	90	93	92	96	104	113	121	123	147	156	164	170

“Whilst there are significantly fewer job offerings compared to September 2008, the rate of annual decline eased during the third quarter. A possible indication that the Dutch hiring market is beginning to stabilise,” commented Diana Krieger, general manager Benelux, Monster Worldwide Europe. “With HR opportunities remaining stable in September, this could also be a sign that businesses are preparing for future recruitment drives as the economy shows early signs of recovery.”

HR job opportunities remain flat whilst all other sectors report declines

The majority of industry sectors noted fewer job opportunities in September with the exception of HR, where online recruitment activity remained stable. Nonetheless, from a historical perspective, offerings were down 75 percent. Similarly, offerings for administrative and organisation workers has fallen by 67 percent, suggesting an overall decline for these supportive roles.

Transport, post and logistics fell 14 points (11 percent) in September, reflecting both reduced consumer and business demand for these services.

The financial sector continued to be affected by the economic crisis, as offerings in banking, finance and insurance dipped six points (13 percent) in September, to a new historical low for the sector.

From an annual perspective, only the agriculture, fishing and forestry and healthcare and social work reported a slight increase in job offerings. Compared to September 2008, the sectors were up two percent and one percent respectively.

Elementary occupations reach six-month high; all other groups report falling job opportunities

Online worker demand in September increased only for lower skilled workers. Elementary occupations reported an eight point (four percent) jump. However, year-on-year opportunities were down 40 percent, the sharpest annual decline of all occupational groups.

All other occupational groups noted a monthly decline in online job offerings; Craft and related trade workers extended its declining trend to a sixth consecutive month, falling nine points (five percent). Similarly, skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers dipped nine points (four percent).

Service and sales workers noted a mild two point (two percent) decrease in job offerings, largely due to weaker demand in hospitality and tourism.

Online job offerings decline sharply in Zeeland

Online recruitment activity slowed the most in Zeeland for the second consecutive month, with opportunities down 13 points (nine percent). Despite this, year-on-year the region reported the most moderate annual decline of all Dutch regions, slowing by 13 percent.

Offerings also declined sharply in Noord-Brabant and Limburg, where offerings dipped 11 points (12 percent) and eight points (nine percent) respectively.

Conversely, Groningen exhibited a two point (two percent) jump in online recruitment activity, following five consecutive months of decline. The region's gain reflected elevated hiring in the HR and hospitality and tourism sectors. Increased hiring in the marketing, PR and media sector fuelled a one point (one percent) uptick in Flevoland.

Best performing sectors

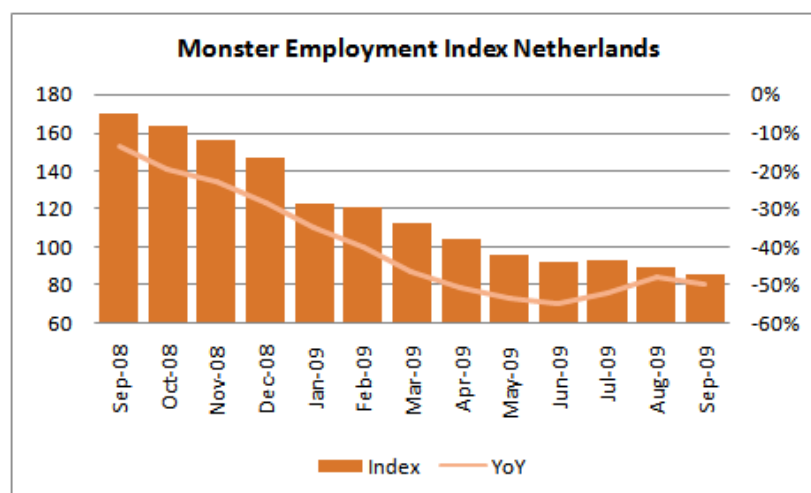
Industry sectors showing the greatest rate of increase in online job availability included:

Month-on-month

Industry	Sep 09	Aug 09	%
HR	45	45	0%
Hospitality and tourism	163	164	-1%
Marketing, PR and media	45	46	-2%
Administrative, organisation	72	74	-3%
Agriculture, fishing, forestry	135	139	-3%

Year-on-year

Industry	Sep 09	Sep 08	%
Agriculture, fishing, forestry	135	132	2%
Healthcare, social work	262	260	1%
Legal	148	202	-27%
Public sector, defence, community	144	219	-34%
Hospitality and tourism	163	251	-35%



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

Industry	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08
Accounting, audit, taxes	89	94	95	96	100	108	115	117	130	140	140	144	154
Administrative, organisation	72	74	75	75	82	89	107	132	126	169	188	192	218
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	135	139	149	141	143	145	137	127	119	121	123	129	132
Banking, finance, insurance	40	46	48	48	48	49	58	74	58	72	77	98	94
Construction and extraction	67	70	72	72	75	77	80	85	100	120	119	119	111
Education, training and library	141	150	161	152	161	172	171	172	173	193	196	215	223
Engineering	85	89	92	94	99	102	102	108	107	123	129	129	132
Healthcare, social work	262	270	281	249	242	260	263	256	239	252	244	238	260
Hospitality and tourism	163	164	174	166	171	176	169	156	166	180	203	235	251
HR	45	45	46	46	49	51	60	78	93	110	137	157	182
IT	78	82	84	86	88	99	110	111	113	129	135	136	138
Legal	148	159	159	149	148	165	183	184	169	183	196	210	202
Management and consulting	79	83	87	88	90	101	112	119	130	151	162	165	167
Marketing, PR and media	45	46	45	45	46	47	53	65	75	94	102	105	117
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	136	141	144	146	152	176	189	197	194	216	221	231	228
Public sector, defence, community	144	153	164	165	159	176	184	178	169	204	213	224	219
Research and development	67	70	76	70	69	76	83	72	63	80	102	107	121
Sales	87	91	94	92	96	103	115	124	124	145	154	163	172
Transport, post and logistics	117	131	134	126	130	141	159	171	177	221	251	276	290

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

Occupation	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08
Managers	77	80	83	83	86	95	108	115	119	149	163	169	173
Professionals	93	97	101	101	104	111	117	123	123	140	147	152	157
Technicians and associate professionals	69	73	74	73	75	79	86	92	98	116	124	129	139
Clerical support workers	111	117	118	115	125	137	156	171	168	201	221	234	256
Service and sales workers	112	114	125	121	117	121	107	111	108	121	142	168	185
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	202	211	224	214	117	224	204	178	168	172	178	184	192
Craft and related workers	160	169	173	175	186	214	228	227	223	249	250	260	245
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	63	65	66	68	73	70	73	92	102	112	128	128	139
Elementary occupations	198	190	195	185	184	178	198	212	212	274	295	325	329

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

Region	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08
Drenthe	106	111	120	118	125	135	141	139	139	166	177	185	190
Flevoland	102	101	109	115	114	124	133	140	139	156	160	176	183
Friesland	96	99	108	112	116	125	133	127	123	149	156	169	179
Gelderland	93	98	105	105	108	115	125	127	127	153	166	174	177
Groningen	115	113	121	123	128	138	150	143	143	176	184	195	197
Limburg	82	90	93	90	94	100	107	116	118	137	150	170	176
Noord-Brabant	81	92	91	88	92	101	113	125	124	155	167	175	181
Noord-Holland	62	64	66	66	69	75	82	91	98	123	134	141	152
Overijssel	99	101	105	108	111	128	132	134	138	170	179	185	190
Utrecht	89	93	97	97	101	110	121	132	134	154	162	167	170
Zeeland	128	141	136	131	140	140	156	147	136	157	160	142	147
Zuid-Holland	79	83	86	86	90	99	104	113	115	140	148	154	160

Monster Employment Index Netherlands for October will be released on November 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://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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