



## Online Recruitment Activity across the Netherlands Goes Down for Twelfth Consecutive Month

### April 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Netherlands fell for the twelfth consecutive month in April, slipping eight percent compared to March 2009. Year-on-year, the Index declined 50 percent
- Online job demand declined most in administrative and organisation; legal; and transport, post and logistics, whereas the telecommunications; and hospitality and tourism sectors saw some increases
- The Dutch labour market has experienced reduced online recruitment activity over the past year amid a decline in production, trade and investment throughout the Netherlands

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Netherlands dipped nine points in April as job demand for workers in the administrative and organisation; and transport, post and logistics sectors slowed. On an annual basis, the Index dropped 106 points, or 50 percent. The Dutch Index reflects activity across the EU as a whole, as the European Index also reported a decline in similar sectors.

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.

Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08
104	113	121	123	147	156	164	170	173	194	203	206	210

“The continued drop in online job demand reflects the overall economic situation of the Netherlands, which has been hit by the decline in production and trade. As a result, businesses are monitoring their recruitment needs strictly,” commented Diana Krieger, general manager Benelux, Monster Worldwide Europe. “At times where economic pressures are high, it is even more important for organisations to match potential employees with vacancies in an efficient manner. There are a number of internet tools available that equip businesses to do this.”

**Administrative and organisation sector sees drop in online job demand**

Online job demand in the administrative and organisation sector dropped 18 points, or 17 percent in April, marking the third consecutive month of decline for the sector. Generally weaker business conditions have led to a slowdown in hiring for administration personnel across Europe.

Meanwhile, transport, post and logistics offerings declined 18 points, or 11 percent, on the month. April was the eleventh month of decline in hiring for the sector which has been affected by the slowdown in global trade.

Online recruitment activity in the HR industry continued to cool in April, as the sector fell nine points, or 15 percent. HR also saw the sharpest rate of annual decline among industry sectors. The sector has fallen for 13 consecutive months as the overall slowdown in recruitment activity has led to fall in demand for HR professionals.

In contrast, opportunities for workers in the hospitality and tourism sector increased seven points, or four percent. The increase was driven primarily by seasonal demand as organisations began to staff up for the summer season. The agriculture, fishing and forestry sector saw opportunities jump eight points in April and is the only industry sector to report annual growth, climbing one point, or one percent, from a year ago.

**Elementary occupations report a decline in online job demand**

Online job demand weakened the most for elementary occupations, which fell 20 points, or ten percent, in the Index as hiring for lower-skill workers eased further.

Managers dropped 13 points in April, marking the seven month of decline for the occupational group. Compared to year-earlier figures, demand for the workers was down 109 points, or 53 percent.

Conversely, skilled agricultural and fishery workers rose 20 Index points in April. It is the only occupational group to show more opportunities compared to year-earlier figures, climbing four points, or two percent.

Service and sales workers jumped 14 points in April, prompted by increased demand in the hospitality and tourism sector as the summer season approaches. Year-on-year the group declined 144 points, or 54 percent.

**All Dutch regions see fewer online job opportunities**

Online job demand fell across all Dutch regions in April as demand remained down compared to year-earlier figures in all parts of the country. Zeeland showed the sharpest monthly decline, falling 16 points, but was the least impacted region on an annual basis, with a decline of 17 points, or 11 percent.

Noord-Holland dropped seven points in the April Index and is now at its lowest level since inception of the Index in December 2004.

Overijssel exhibited the most moderate decline among all regions, dipping just four points.

**Top Growth Sectors**

Industries showing the highest increase in demand on a monthly basis:

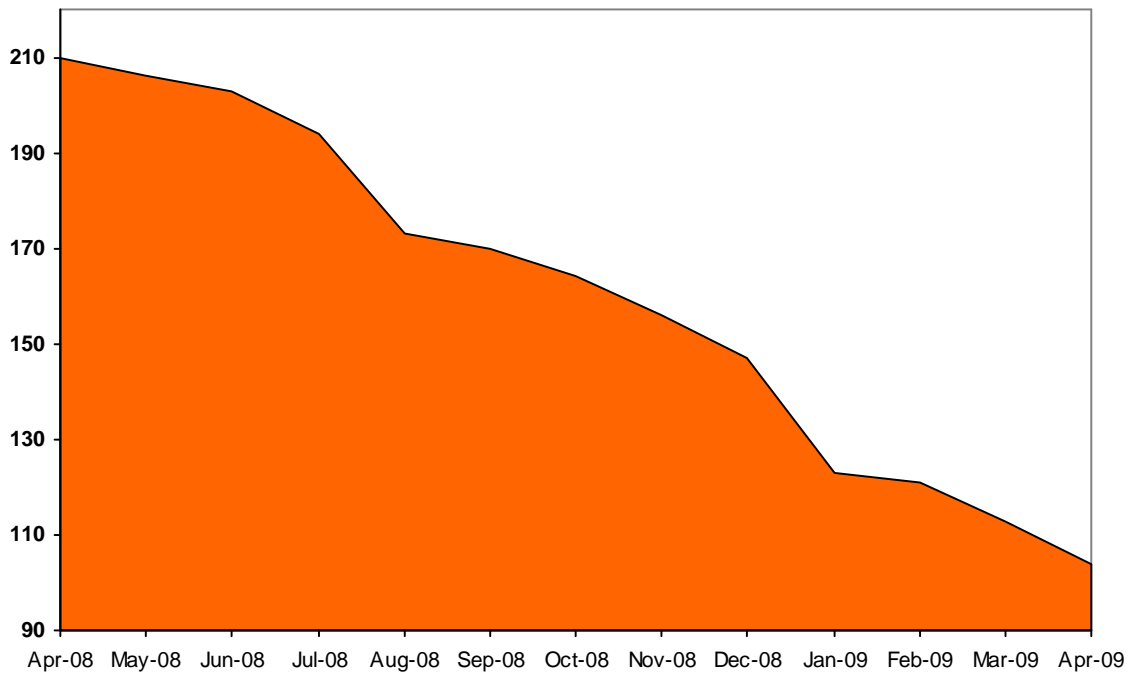
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Apr 09</b>	<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>
Agriculture, fishing, forestry	145	137	127
Telecommunication	39	32	39
Hospitality and tourism	176	169	156
Education, training and library	172	171	172

**Top Growth Occupational Groups**

Occupational groups showing the highest increase in demand on a monthly basis:

<b>Occupations</b>	<b>Apr 09</b>	<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	224	204	220
Service and sales workers	121	107	265

### Monster Employment Index Netherlands



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

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Apr 09</b>	<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Feb 09</b>	<b>Jan 09</b>	<b>Dec 08</b>	<b>Nov 08</b>	<b>Oct 08</b>	<b>Sep 08</b>	<b>Aug 08</b>	<b>Jul 08</b>	<b>Jun 08</b>	<b>May 08</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>
Accounting, audit, taxes	108	115	117	130	140	140	144	154	155	164	169	169	179
Administrative, organisation	89	107	132	126	169	188	192	218	230	280	299	314	292
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	145	137	127	119	121	123	129	132	133	137	141	141	144
Banking, finance, insurance	49	58	74	58	72	77	98	94	100	129	125	120	120
Construction and extraction	77	80	85	100	120	119	119	111	105	112	119	117	125
Education, training and library	172	171	172	173	193	196	215	223	210	242	248	257	250
Engineering	102	102	108	107	123	129	129	132	136	146	152	162	165
Healthcare, social work	260	263	256	239	252	244	238	260	249	271	293	300	278
Hospitality and tourism	176	169	156	166	180	203	235	251	265	265	283	302	292
HR	51	60	78	93	110	137	157	182	179	192	214	215	231
IT	99	110	111	113	129	135	136	138	139	144	152	151	149
Legal	165	183	184	169	183	196	210	202	206	207	216	198	191
Management and consulting	101	112	119	130	151	162	165	167	169	190	197	191	197
Marketing, PR and media	47	53	65	75	94	102	105	117	121	130	155	152	163
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	176	189	197	194	216	221	231	228	231	245	243	244	251
Public sector, defence, community	176	184	178	169	204	213	224	219	208	230	248	228	227
Research and development	76	83	72	63	80	102	107	121	116	136	186	173	167
Sales	103	115	124	124	145	154	163	172	178	203	209	212	220
Telecommunications	39	32	39	50	74	90	96	88	93	105	101	96	100
Transport, post and logistics	141	159	171	177	221	251	276	290	303	335	342	340	330

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

Occupation Group	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08
Managers	95	108	115	119	149	163	169	173	172	199	219	200	204
Professionals	111	117	123	123	140	147	152	157	159	173	184	186	190
Technicians and associate professionals	79	86	92	98	116	124	129	139	142	156	160	163	168
Clerical support workers	137	156	171	168	201	221	234	256	265	324	338	349	337
Service and sales workers	121	107	111	108	121	142	168	185	198	228	250	260	265
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	224	204	178	168	172	178	184	192	194	203	214	213	220
Craft and related workers	214	228	227	223	249	250	260	245	247	263	253	258	275
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	70	73	92	102	112	128	128	139	139	160	174	172	168
Elementary occupations	178	198	212	212	274	295	325	329	331	336	312	314	289

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

Region	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08
Drenthe	135	141	139	139	166	177	185	190	189	213	232	227	214
Flevoland	124	133	140	139	156	160	176	183	196	230	233	232	224
Friesland	125	133	127	123	149	156	169	179	179	198	215	218	218
Gelderland	115	125	127	127	153	166	174	177	185	210	227	240	245
Groningen	138	150	143	143	176	184	195	197	201	210	221	226	219
Limburg	100	107	116	118	137	150	170	176	186	191	208	216	235
Noord-Brabant	101	113	125	124	155	167	175	181	187	205	221	225	229
Noord-Holland	75	82	91	98	123	134	141	152	151	175	190	185	188
Overijssel	128	132	134	138	170	179	185	190	190	217	238	247	235
Utrecht	110	121	132	134	154	162	167	170	170	192	177	187	193
Zeeland	140	156	147	136	157	160	142	147	147	157	148	155	157
Zuid-Holland	99	104	113	115	140	148	154	160	162	178	190	187	193

Monster Employment Index Netherlands for May will be released on June 9, 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. 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:**

Edward Touw  
Monster Worldwide Netherlands  
+31 (0)20 851 11 01  
[edward.touw@monsterboard.nl](mailto:edward.touw@monsterboard.nl)