



## Dutch Online Job Market Affected by Falling Opportunities in the Transport, Post and Logistics Sector, Reports Monster Employment Index Netherlands

### January 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Netherlands plummeted to a three-year low in January, falling 24 points. Year-on-year, the Index was down 65 points or 35 percent, the steepest annual decline on record
- All industry sectors registered fewer online job opportunities in January, with transport, post and logistics; telecommunications; administrative and organisation; and research and development exhibiting the sharpest declines
- The banking, finance and insurance sector continued to decline in January and showed an annual fall of 46 percent, reflecting the impact on hiring of credit crunch
- Online job availability remained higher than a year ago in the legal; and healthcare, social work sectors, indicating areas of relatively solid demand
- All occupational groups fell in the Index, with elementary occupations; and managers registering the steepest drops
- Online job opportunities declined across all regions

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Netherlands slumped 24 points in January to a reading of 123, leaving the Index at its lowest level since 2003. The fall reflects steep declines in advertised job opportunities in the transport, post and logistics; and administrative and organisation sectors. Year-on-year the Index declined 35 percent, further moderation in Dutch employer demand for workers at the beginning of 2009.

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 Netherlands, including Monsterboard.nl.

Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08
123	147	156	164	170	173	194	203	206	210	210	201	188

“With the European Commission expecting to see the Dutch economy contract significantly in 2009, it’s not surprising that companies across the Netherlands are

increasingly holding back on recruiting,” commented Diana Krieger, general manager Benelux, Monster Worldwide Europe. “Many companies have been cutting back on temporary and flexible workers. While this has led to reduced overall demand, it has not yet caused a surge in employment, attesting to the remarkable flexibility of the Dutch labour market. Despite the overall decline in demand, opportunities in the healthcare and legal sector remain up on year-earlier figures, indicating resilience in the current climate.”

**All industry sectors see weaker online job demand**

Online job offerings in the transport, post and logistics sectors saw weaker demand for the seventh consecutive month in January, falling 44 points. The current economic climate has significantly affected hiring in the sector as activity in the travel, shipping and distribution industries has slowed. Technicians and associate professionals registered the sharpest decline in the sector, whilst all regions exhibited weaker job demand.

Administrative and organisation opportunities declined 43 points, reflecting fewer opportunities for professionals as organisations continued to trim down on support staff. Offerings for technicians and associate professionals also declined. Regionally, Friesland saw the sharpest decline. Year-on-year, the sector slumped 127 points, or 52 percent.

Job availability in the public, defence and community sector fell for the third month, declining 35 index points. The slump reflected reduced demand for clerical support workers. Regionally, Drenthe, Groningen and Utrecht noted the sharpest declines. Despite the significant decline this month, year-on-year the sector fell a modest 16 points, or nine percent.

**Elementary job offerings decline as building and manufacturing sectors contract**

Online job availability for elementary occupations declined 62 points in January, marking the sixth month of decline for the group. Fewer offerings were noted in the construction and extraction; and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors, which are currently suffering from a lack of investment and slowing industrial activity. Year-on-year, demand in the sector was down 56 points, or 21 percent.

Clerical support workers declined for the eighth consecutive month, with opportunities falling 33 points. The decline reflects weaker demand in the administrative and organisation sectors, whilst declines were also noted in the public, defence and community sector. All regions exhibited fewer offerings, with Drenthe registering the largest decline. Year-on-year the occupational group fell 129 points, or 46 percent.

**Groningen registers sharply reduced offerings as all other regions decline**

Groningen fell 33 points in the January Index, as opportunities fell for the eighth month. The region saw sharp declines in the banking, finance and insurance; education, training and library; and engineering sectors. Conversely, online opportunities for marketing, PR and media increased in January. Among occupational groups, professionals; and plant and machine operators and assemblers saw the largest drop in demand. Year-on-year the region fell 45 points, or 24 percent.

Online job availability in Overijssel fell 32 points, as weaker job demand was noted in the accounting, audit, taxes; and administrative and organisation sectors. In contrast, the healthcare and social work sector saw online opportunities recover slightly. Online job demand for arts, entertainment, sports and leisure also bounced back in January following two months of decline. Managers; clerical support workers; and technicians and associate professionals all registered fewer online opportunities in the region. Year-on-year the region declined 61 points, or 31 percent.

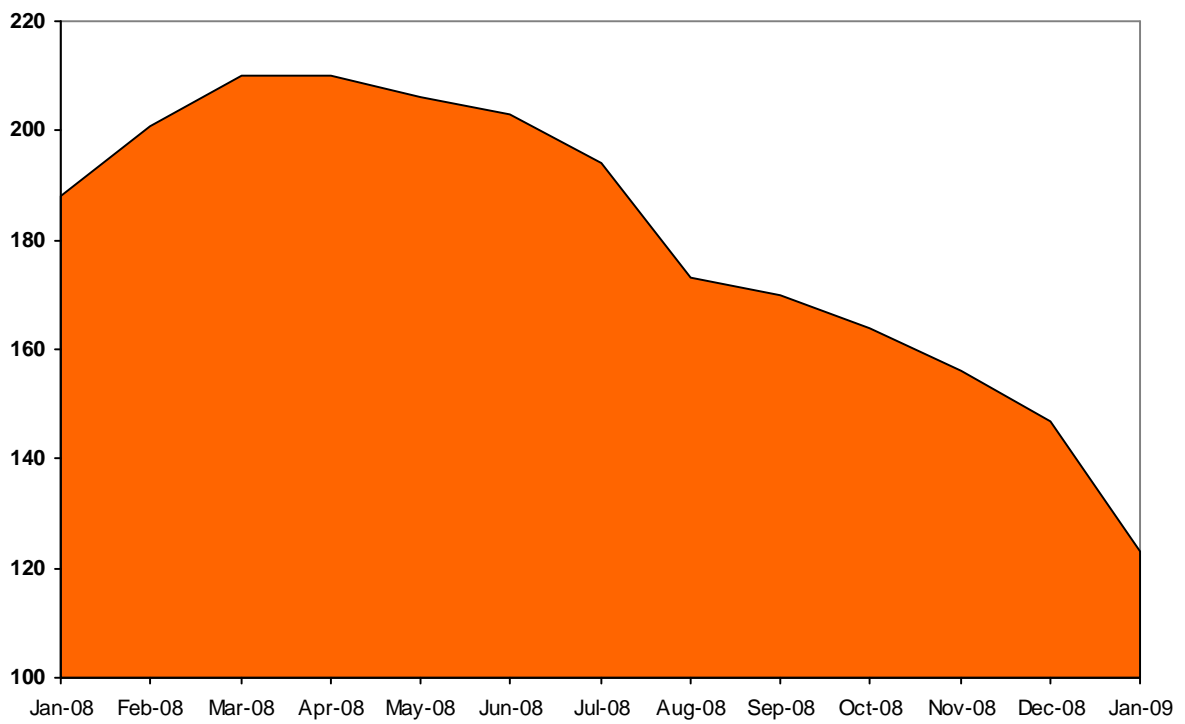
Noord-Brabant dropped 31 points in January as opportunities declined in the administrative and organisation; banking, finance and insurance; and telecommunications sectors. However, the agriculture, fishing and forestry; and healthcare and social work sectors are holding up well against the turbulent economic climate, as both sectors registered increasing job opportunities in the region. Year-on-year the region declined 84 points, or 40 percent.

**Top Growth Sectors Year-over-Year**

Industries showing the highest increase in demand on an annual basis:

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Jan 09</b>	<b>Jan 08</b>
Legal	169	158
Healthcare, social work	239	237
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	119	119

### Monster Employment Index Netherlands



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

<b>Industry</b>	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08
Accounting, audit, taxes	130	140	140	144	154	155	164	169	169	179	180	173	172
Administrative, organisation	126	169	188	192	218	230	280	299	314	292	293	273	246
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	119	121	123	129	132	133	137	141	141	144	135	136	119
Banking, finance, insurance	58	72	77	98	94	100	129	125	120	120	125	127	108
Construction and extraction	100	120	119	119	111	105	112	119	117	125	126	126	135
Education, training and library	173	193	196	215	223	210	242	248	257	250	257	236	207
Engineering	107	123	129	129	132	136	146	152	162	165	169	158	156
Healthcare, social work	239	252	244	238	260	249	271	293	300	278	274	264	237
Hospitality and tourism	166	180	203	235	251	265	265	283	302	292	261	250	208
HR	93	110	137	157	182	179	192	214	215	231	240	223	204
IT	113	129	135	136	138	139	144	152	151	149	145	151	146
Legal	169	183	196	210	202	206	207	216	198	191	191	172	158
Management and consulting	130	151	162	165	167	169	190	197	191	197	204	193	182
Marketing, PR and media	75	94	102	105	117	121	130	155	152	163	178	164	143
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	194	216	221	231	228	231	245	243	244	251	247	243	223
Public sector, defence, community	169	204	213	224	219	208	230	248	228	227	231	216	185
Research and development	63	80	102	107	121	116	136	186	173	167	173	187	177
Sales	124	145	154	163	172	178	203	209	212	220	223	211	192
Telecommunications	50	74	90	96	88	93	105	101	96	100	107	93	96
Transport, post and logistics	177	221	251	276	290	303	335	342	340	330	321	303	279

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

Occupation Group	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08
Managers	119	149	163	169	173	172	199	219	200	204	213	203	188
Professionals	123	140	147	152	157	159	173	184	186	190	192	184	177
Technicians and associate professionals	98	116	124	129	139	142	156	160	163	168	173	164	156
Clerical support workers	168	201	221	234	256	265	324	338	349	337	330	303	283
Service and sales workers	108	121	142	168	185	198	228	250	260	265	244	233	206
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	168	172	178	184	192	194	203	214	213	220	199	202	169
Craft and related workers	223	249	250	260	245	247	263	253	258	275	266	269	243
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	102	112	128	128	139	139	160	174	172	168	174	157	152
Elementary occupations	212	274	295	325	329	331	336	312	314	289	270	289	268

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

Region	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08
Drenthe	139	166	177	185	190	189	213	232	227	214	217	208	190
Flevoland	139	156	160	176	183	196	230	233	232	224	223	209	193
Friesland	123	149	156	169	179	179	198	215	218	218	213	201	179
Gelderland	127	153	166	174	177	185	210	227	240	245	232	223	206
Groningen	143	176	184	195	197	201	210	221	226	219	220	205	188
Limburg	118	137	150	170	176	186	191	208	216	235	239	230	205
Noord-Brabant	124	155	167	175	181	187	205	221	225	229	227	215	208
Noord-Holland	98	123	134	141	152	151	175	190	185	188	193	187	169
Overijssel	138	170	179	185	190	190	217	238	247	235	226	212	199
Utrecht	134	154	162	167	170	170	192	177	187	193	195	187	174
Zeeland	136	157	160	142	147	147	157	148	155	157	161	152	150
Zuid-Holland	115	140	148	154	160	162	178	190	187	193	197	188	185

Monster Employment Index Netherlands for February will be released on March 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. 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>.

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