



## Monster Employment Index Netherlands Falls in May, as Marketing, Accounting and HR Sectors Report Lower Online Job Availability

### May 2008 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Netherlands fell four points in May with annual growth falling to just eight points, or four percent.
- The fall came as a result of lower job availability in professional service sectors such as marketing, PR and media; accounting, audit, taxes; and HR.
- Demand for workers remained strong in the administrative, organisation; transport, post and logistics; and hospitality and tourism industries.
- Occupational groups showing fewer online job opportunities included craft-related workers; and skilled agricultural and fishery workers.
- Regionally, Limburg and Zuid-Holland saw the sharpest declines while Drenthe and Overijssel posted solid gains.

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Netherlands dropped by four points in May to a level of 206, four points short of its historical high. Although the Index remains comfortably higher than a year ago, the slowing underlying growth pace suggests that the Dutch labour market is moderating. The Monster Employment Index Netherlands 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.

May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
206	210	210	201	188	205	202	204	197	193	197	191	198

“It’s surprising to see the Index fall at this time of year, as in previous years, May has always been a month of strong growth in online hiring,” commented Diana Krieger, General Manager Benelux, Monster Worldwide Europe. “In light of the Index showing the lowest annual growth rate to-date, this unusual break from seasonal expectations could be an indication that a broader trend shift is under way within the hitherto solid Dutch economy.”

**Steep Declines Measured in Marketing, PR and Media; and HR Sectors**

HR saw a second consecutive month of lower online job demand in May, falling 16 points. The decline was driven by falling demand for professionals, while regionally the greatest decreases were seen in Limburg, Utrecht, and Noord-Brabant. Despite the fall, year-on-year growth for HR workers was up 13 points, or six percent.

Marketing, PR and media also fell by 11 points, as a result of fewer online opportunities for legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; and technicians and associate professionals. Most regions saw an overall decline, with only Zuid-Holland showing a slight increase. Year-on-year demand for the sector was down eight points, or five percent.

The administrative and organisation sector saw a surge in demand, jumping 22 points as opportunities for clerks grew significantly. Meanwhile, hospitality and tourism grew strongly with a 10-point jump. This came as service, shop and market sales workers; and Technicians and associate professionals saw more opportunities across Gelderland.

**Specialised Craft-workers see Slump in Demand, as Lower-skilled Occupations see Strong Growth**

Craft-related workers saw online job opportunities fall 17 points in May, as job availability in the construction and extraction sector fell sharply. Demand was also down in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector.

Skilled agricultural and fishery workers also saw a strong drop in demand, with a seven-point fall coming as a result of lower demand in the agriculture, fishing and forestry sector, most notably in Flevoland. Despite the fall, year-on-year growth across the sector was 84 points, or 65 percent.

One job category showing a strong increase in online opportunities was elementary occupations, which saw a surge of 25 points as a result of growing demand in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector across Flevoland.

**Limburg and Zuid-Holland Fall for Second Consecutive Month**

Limburg saw online job opportunities slump by 19 points as major declines were reported in arts, entertainment, sports and leisure; marketing, PR and media; and telecommunications. All occupational groups registered declines, with the sharpest fall reported for elementary workers. The region saw demand fall by 32 points, or 13 percent year-on-year, the steepest decrease among regions.

A less pronounced decline was seen in Zuid-Holland, with a six-point fall driven by lower levels of demand for workers in the arts, entertainment, sports and leisure; and accounting, audit, taxes sectors. Craft-related; and service, shop and market sales workers saw the biggest declines, while there was higher demand for elementary workers and clerks.

Drenthe saw the best regional performance, gaining 13 points in May with more opportunities seen in public, defence and community; construction and extraction; and education, training and library. Overijssel also saw a strong rise of 12 points, while extending a fourth consecutive month of growth and growing to its highest level to date.

**Top Industries Looking for Employees in May**

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

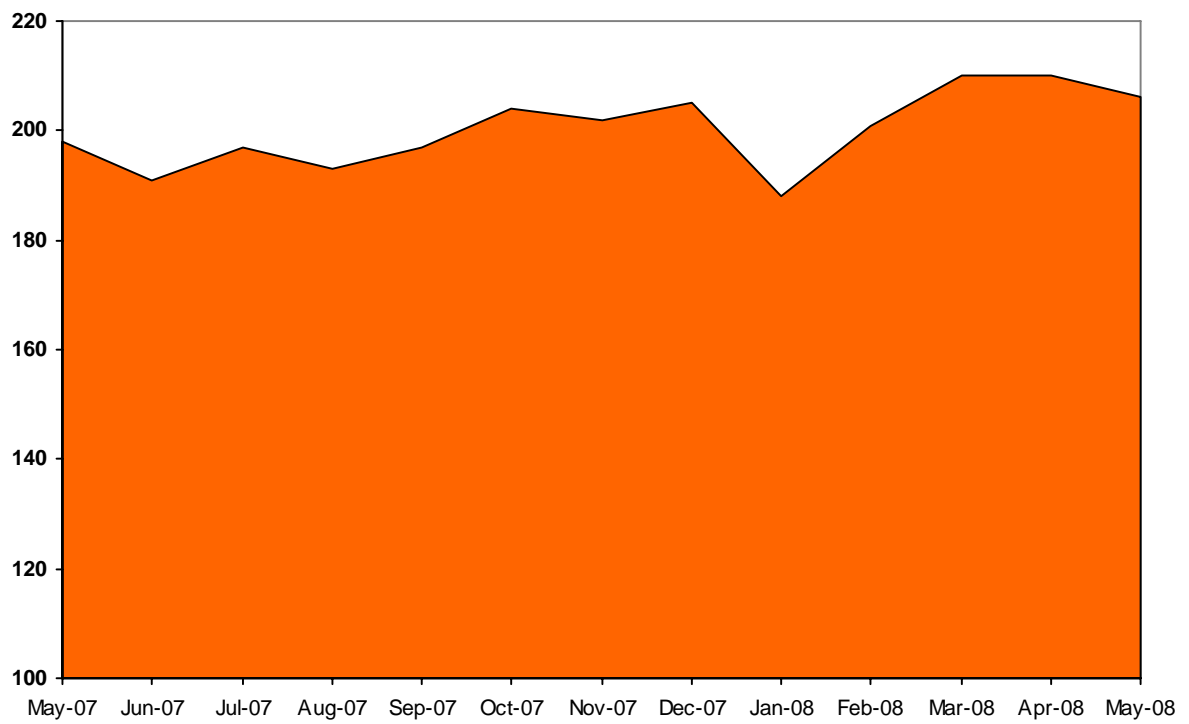
<b>Industry</b>	<b>May 08</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>	<b>Mar 08</b>
Administrative, organisation	314	292	293
Hospitality and tourism	302	292	261
Transport, post and logistics	340	330	321
Education, training and library	257	250	257
Legal	198	191	191

**Most Wanted Occupational Categories in May**

Occupational categories registering significant increases in online job demand included:

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>May 08</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>	<b>Mar 08</b>
Elementary occupations	314	289	270
Clerks	349	337	330
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	172	168	174

### Monster Employment Index Netherlands



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

Industry	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	169	179	180	173	172	178	171	168	173	179	181	174	172
Administrative, organisation	314	292	293	273	246	272	254	251	250	264	259	278	256
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	141	144	135	136	119	125	129	129	129	116	118	122	129
Banking, finance, insurance	120	120	125	127	108	137	123	118	116	133	132	128	173
Construction and extraction	117	125	126	126	135	137	136	194	140	166	167	149	162
Education, training and library	257	250	257	236	207	215	217	219	206	195	233	228	228
Engineering	162	165	169	158	156	166	166	157	154	157	157	159	166
Hospitality and tourism	302	292	261	250	208	247	243	250	243	228	231	282	247
HR	215	231	240	223	204	208	205	193	217	210	217	206	202
IT	151	149	145	151	146	157	152	148	150	142	147	144	149
Legal	198	191	191	172	158	161	159	152	164	161	159	149	148
Management and consulting	191	197	204	193	182	189	189	190	192	187	182	175	172
Marketing, PR and media	152	163	178	164	143	150	147	148	144	143	150	144	160
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	244	251	247	243	223	248	249	274	223	203	219	206	227
Public sector, defence, community	228	227	231	216	185	197	206	218	200	172	201	191	203
Research and development	173	167	173	187	177	179	159	157	166	188	198	200	201
Sales	212	220	223	211	192	213	211	211	212	188	186	182	187
Telecommunication	96	100	107	93	96	116	109	111	103	109	112	115	140
Transport, post and logistics	340	330	321	303	279	318	320	314	312	344	342	331	332

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

Occupation	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	200	204	213	203	188	197	195	190	200	198	191	170	173
Professionals	186	190	192	184	177	189	185	186	178	180	182	176	182
Technicians and associate professionals	163	168	173	164	156	170	168	163	166	165	171	170	177
Clerks	349	337	330	303	283	304	284	294	284	263	262	282	260
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	260	265	244	233	206	238	242	253	239	209	221	279	226
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	213	220	199	202	169	183	193	193	193	177	183	195	129
Craft and related workers	258	275	266	269	243	273	271	312	237	227	241	223	255
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	172	168	174	157	152	171	173	163	162	191	191	184	187
Elementary occupations	314	289	270	289	268	246	280	308	296	310	321	297	301

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

Region	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
Drenthe	227	214	217	208	190	210	212	207	201	197	208	208	212
Flevoland	232	224	223	209	193	207	201	200	196	205	208	204	209
Friesland	218	218	213	201	179	205	213	205	193	190	200	202	215
Gelderland	240	245	232	223	206	225	230	237	214	212	224	218	225
Groningen	226	219	220	205	188	217	220	204	202	199	205	195	200
Limburg	216	235	239	230	205	225	232	255	237	238	236	237	248
Noord-Brabant	225	229	227	215	208	226	223	231	214	214	219	220	224
Noord-Holland	185	188	193	187	169	182	180	179	182	177	176	171	177
Overijssel	247	235	226	212	199	223	224	225	203	200	218	215	225
Utrecht	187	193	195	187	174	190	187	190	181	183	182	177	180
Zeeland	155	157	161	152	150	158	153	156	152	149	152	157	157
Zuid-Holland	187	193	197	188	185	197	186	184	178	178	180	174	177

Monster Employment Index Netherlands for June will be released on July 8, 2008.

### **About The Monster Employment Index Netherlands**

Providing a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand, the Monster Employment Index Netherlands is an extension of the Monster Employment Index Europe, which is compiled each month by researchers at Monster Worldwide Europe.

Launched in June 2005, the Monster Employment Index Europe provides monthly insight into recruitment trends across the European Union. The Index report is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from Web sites across Europe, including Monster®. The Index is audited by Research America, Inc. and provides analyses of online job demand within occupational categories, industry sectors and regions.

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](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](http://www.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.

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