

## Online Recruitment Activity Slows Across Sweden Following Seasonal Hiring Trends, Reports Monster

### August 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped nine points (8%) as the slow holiday period continued. Annually, online job offerings are down 38 percent
- Technical and financial services noted the largest monthly falls in demand for workers. Hospitality and tourism and healthcare and social work were the only industry sectors to increase on the month
- All Swedish regions were affected by similar degrees, declining on a monthly and annual basis

### Summary Overview

Whilst signs are emerging that the Swedish economy may be slowly recovering, businesses still appear reluctant to hire, reflected by the sustained decline in online job offerings in August. Hiring is particularly slow in areas such as engineering, IT and research and development. The annual rate of deterioration has stabilised, however, providing early signs of stabilisation in the Swedish labour market.

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 Monster.se

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

Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
98	107	115	115	117	127	130	121	145	156	162	167	159

“Recruiting is typically slow during the summer period, so the fall in August can partly be explained by seasonal factors. Still, it brings Swedish online job availability to a near four-year low, demonstrating the extent to which the Swedish labour market has cooled,” said Carl Silverstolpe, managing director Monster Scandinavia. “While demand continues to ease for workers with technical skills, offerings for service and sales occupations are holding up better.”

**Technical and financial sectors note sharp monthly falls; all sectors decline annually**

The economic downturn has led to reduced online recruitment activity across the majority of industry sectors in Sweden.

In August, a wide range of technical industry sectors noted monthly declines, with engineering falling the most, by 26 points (15 percent). Annually the previously high-demand sector declined 53 percent, one of the sharpest annual falls. .

Meanwhile, IT offerings fell for the seventh consecutive month as the category lost 25 points (12 percent) in August and 51 percent compared to year-earlier figures. Research and development also fell, with offerings down 18 points (13 percent) on a monthly basis and 31 percent annually.

Demand in the financial services slowed as well, with accounting, audit and taxes dropping 22 points (10 percent) and banking, finance and insurance reaching a record low amid a 12 point (12 percent) drop.

In contrast, seasonal recruitment trends fuelled a six point (six percent) uptick in the hospitality and tourism sector. Healthcare and social work offerings also jumped in August, rising three points (three percent).

**Professional job opportunities continue to drop; all groups decline year-on-year**

Professional occupations noted the sharpest fall in online recruitment activity in August, with offerings falling 21 points (15 percent). Demand fell most notably in Norra Sverige. Year-on-year the group fell 35 percent. Managers extended its declining trend to a six month period, losing five points (three percent). Annually, online offerings were down 47 percent, the steepest of all occupational groups.

In contrast, demand for service and sales workers halted a four-month declining trend, jumping 13 points (nine percent), the sharpest fall across all groups. Year-on-year however, offerings continued to fall, dipping a modest 13 percent. Elementary occupations was the only other group to report increased offerings, risings two points (two percent).

**Online job demand weakens across all Swedish regions**

All Swedish regions declined by eight percent in August; Ostra Mellansverige dipped nine points (eight percent). Offerings in the region declined most notably in education, training and library as well as IT. Compared to year-earlier figures, the region was down 43 percent, the sharpest rate an annual deterioration of all regions.

Norra Sverige dipped eight points (eight percent) and 53 points (35 percent) year-on-year, the mildest annual rate of decline of all Swedish regions.

**Best Performing Sectors**

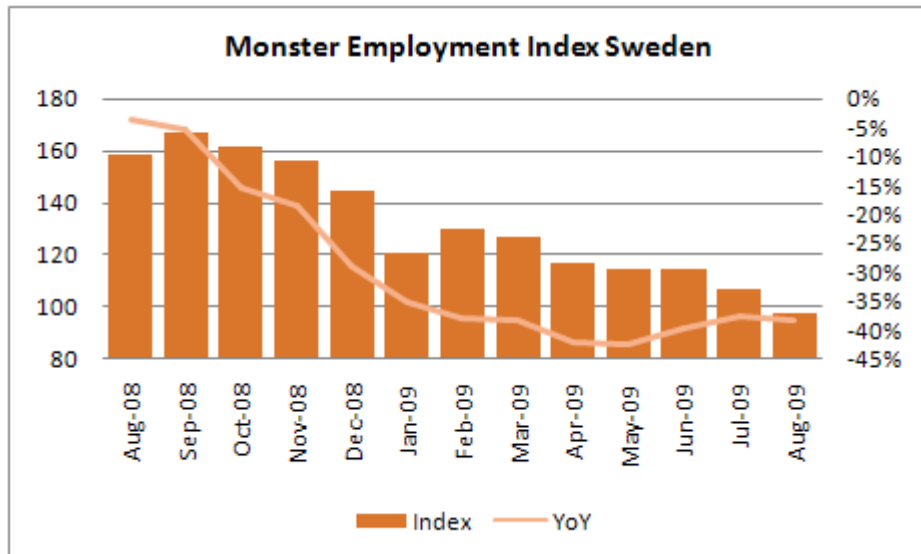
Industry sectors showing the best performance included:

**Month-on-month**

Industry	Aug 09	Jul 09	%
Hospitality and tourism	110	104	6%
Healthcare, social work	111	108	3%
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	123	123	0%
Public sector, defence, community	91	92	-1%
Administrative, organisation	121	124	-2%

**Year-on-year**

Industry	Aug 09	Aug 08	%
Public sector, defence, community	91	95	-4%
Education, training and library	96	101	-5%
Healthcare, social work	111	118	-6%
Construction and extraction	146	167	-13%
Hospitality and tourism	110	131	-16%



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

Industry	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
Accounting, audit, taxes	195	217	227	227	236	234	223	232	249	257	274	271	261
Administrative, organisation	121	124	129	137	145	162	190	148	183	214	232	280	240
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	123	123	127	132	164	173	178	142	138	136	146	149	154
Banking, finance, insurance	85	97	107	102	109	119	129	142	164	187	227	219	211
Construction and extraction	146	159	170	157	153	159	163	143	163	175	179	184	167
Education, training and library	96	108	117	108	90	89	90	90	101	97	92	94	101
Engineering	142	168	169	181	162	181	206	245	306	345	368	350	305
Healthcare, social work	111	108	114	120	137	157	145	104	114	116	120	125	118
Hospitality and tourism	110	104	113	120	128	134	118	100	107	119	126	147	131
IT	176	201	208	214	238	256	263	285	341	378	395	382	362
Management and consulting	148	157	159	167	175	188	188	199	234	268	258	265	266
Marketing, PR and media	55	57	64	61	70	70	77	68	74	82	87	92	80
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	96	102	103	110	111	122	135	129	145	175	188	218	193
Public sector, defence, community	91	92	89	95	88	91	91	90	92	95	94	96	95
Research and development	121	139	140	137	169	178	154	156	152	169	148	149	175
Sales	149	155	169	164	170	164	189	175	199	238	249	254	232
Transport, post and logistics	109	113	124	130	133	132	127	118	146	170	190	216	207

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

Occupation	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
Managers	150	155	163	170	184	196	211	193	249	270	268	295	283
Professionals	123	144	159	152	140	148	150	153	174	186	185	185	188
Technicians and associate professionals	72	78	84	86	92	102	108	86	107	130	141	143	127
Clerical support workers	116	126	127	145	138	140	142	144	139	146	151	159	153
Service and sales workers	152	139	14	158	171	178	173	153	171	176	187	206	182
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	97	101	106	108	125	131	137	104	103	103	111	112	112
Craft and related workers	149	163	178	165	165	167	173	154	167	183	196	203	181
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	90	95	100	102	105	101	107	88	114	135	173	185	158
Elementary occupations	122	120	134	134	135	138	125	130	130	143	140	148	133

Monster Employment Index Sweden findings across Swedish regions for the past 13 months are as follows:

Region	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	98	106	105	113	112	120	122	112	130	143	150	152	151
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	106	115	128	126	128	136	142	137	171	188	193	199	186
<b>Sydsverige Med Öarna</b> (Sydsverige, Småland Med Öarna)	99	108	118	117	122	135	138	121	148	165	172	174	167
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	86	93	98	106	105	118	119	101	131	137	146	158	149

Monster Employment Index data for September will be released on October 13, 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](http://www.monster.com). More information about Monster Worldwide is available at <http://about-monster.com/>.

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