

# monster®

## EMPLOYMENT INDEX

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### Online Job Demand Climbs for the Fourth Consecutive Month, According to Monster Employment Index Sweden

#### December 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden climbed two points in December, extending the upward trend to a fourth consecutive month
- Demand increased most notably in construction and extraction which fuelled a surge in opportunities for craft and related trade workers
- Sydsverige med Öarna saw the largest jump in online job demand whilst Norra Sverige remained flat

#### Summary Overview

The latest Index reading suggests online demand for workers may have passed a low point and it appears organisations are now accelerating their recruitment drives during the holidays. Whilst opportunities are at their highest level since April 2009, offerings are down 20 percent year-on year, suggesting it may take some time for job demand to return to their previous high levels.

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:

Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08
116	114	103	102	98	107	115	115	117	127	130	121	145

“Online recruitment activity has seen a steady increasing trend over the final quarter of 2009, suggesting that the slowdown in hiring has come to an end; this is positive news for jobseekers as we head in to 2010,” said Carl Silverstople, managing director Monster Scandinavia. “In December we saw a significant jump in online demand for workers in both construction and finance, two sectors that have been worst hit by the economic crisis, which is extremely positive for the overall Swedish labour market and may encourage other sectors to step up recruitment drives.”

**Construction and extraction offerings surge to 15-month high**

The majority of industry sectors noted increased online worker demand in December, led by the construction and extraction sector. Despite the global economic crisis halting overall production, the construction and extraction sector saw online worker demand rocket 11 points (seven percent) in December. The sector is now at its highest level since September 2008, with opportunities up 17 points (10 percent) compared to year-earlier figures.

Financial services also reported a significant increase in online job demand at the end of 2009. Accounting, audit and taxes opportunities jumped 16 points (six percent) Furthermore, the sector reported one of the best year-on-year increases; online worker demand was up 15 points (six percent) compared to December 2008. Similarly, banking, finance and insurance offerings increased six points (six percent) in December.

Education, training and library noted a seven point (seven percent) uptick in December. Year-on-year, online worker demand continued to increase and is now up three points (three percent) compared to year-earlier figures.

**Online worker demand for professionals jumps for third consecutive month**

Professionals exhibited the highest increase in online job demand in December 2009; offerings rose 11 points (eight percent) compared to November. The occupational group has seen a steady increase in job offerings over the past quarter, however offerings were down 24 points (14 percent) compared to year-earlier figures.

Online job opportunities increased 12 points (seven percent) for craft and related trade workers. The rise was largely driven by increased demand in sectors including construction and transportation. The group is the only one to report growing opportunities on an annual basis; offerings rocketed 20 points (12 percent) compared to December 2008.

In contrast, managers noted a 12 point (six percent) decline on the month, following an uptick in November. In addition, the group continued to exhibit the sharpest annual decline; demand was down 71 points (29 percent) year-on-year.

**Sydsverige med Öarna reports greatest uptick in December**

Online worker demand increased the most in Sydsverige med Öarna; opportunities jumped five points (four percent) and are now at their highest level since April 2009. Similarly, online offerings climbed for the second consecutive month in Västsverige, with a jump of four points (four percent) in December 2009.

Despite all regions noting growth over the final quarter of 2009, all regions reported declining job demand on an annual basis. Demand has held up the best in Norra Sverige, where offerings were down 24 points (18 percent) compared to December 2008. Meanwhile, opportunities were down the most in Östra Mellansverige, which fell 41 points (24 percent) year-on-year.

**Best Performing Sectors**

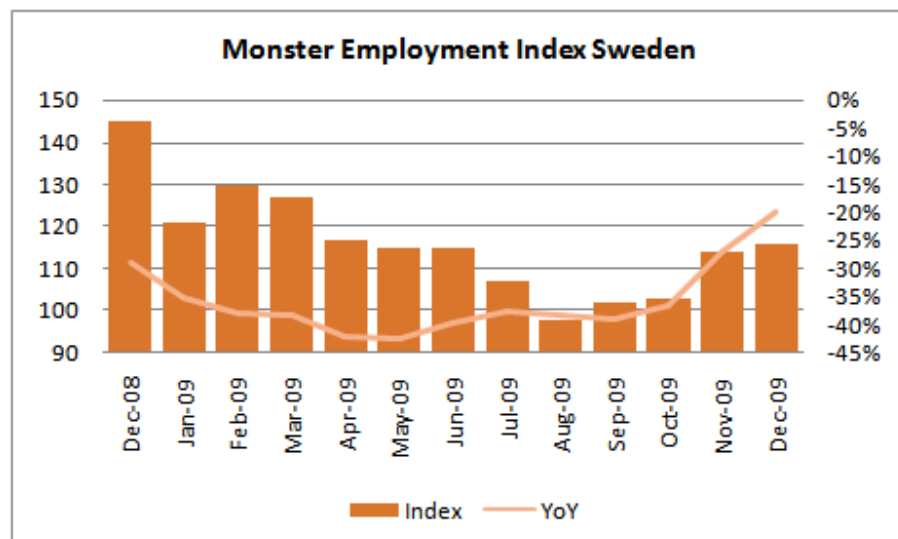
Industry sectors showing the best performance included:

**Month-on-month**

Industry	Dec 09	Nov 09	%
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	127	117	9%
Education, training and library	104	97	7%
Construction and extraction	180	169	7%
Accounting, audit, taxes	265	249	6%
Banking, finance, insurance	104	98	6%

**Year-on-year**

Industry	Dec 09	Dec 08	%
Construction and extraction	180	163	10%
Accounting, audit, taxes	265	249	6%
Education, training and library	104	101	3%
Public sector, defence, community	94	92	2%
Hospitality and tourism	106	107	-1%



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

Industry	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08
Accounting, audit, taxes	265	249	211	199	195	217	227	227	236	234	223	232	249
Administrative, organisation	128	142	126	124	121	124	129	137	145	162	190	148	183
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	127	117	113	127	123	123	127	132	164	173	178	142	138
Banking, finance, insurance	104	98	88	89	85	97	107	102	109	119	129	142	164
Construction and extraction	180	169	156	160	146	159	170	157	153	159	163	143	163
Education, training and library	104	97	93	94	96	108	117	108	90	89	90	90	101
Engineering	178	185	168	150	142	168	169	181	162	181	206	245	306
Healthcare, social work	110	108	106	105	111	108	114	120	137	157	145	104	114
Hospitality and tourism	106	109	105	116	110	104	113	120	128	134	118	100	107
IT	245	233	204	177	176	201	208	214	238	256	263	285	341
Management and consulting	188	188	161	165	148	157	159	167	175	188	188	199	234
Marketing, PR and media	57	62	54	63	55	57	64	61	70	70	77	68	74
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	110	116	115	105	96	102	103	110	111	122	135	129	145
Public sector, defence, community	94	91	94	93	91	92	89	95	88	91	91	90	92
Research and development	135	137	119	105	121	139	140	137	169	178	154	156	152
Sales	175	182	165	168	149	155	169	164	170	164	189	175	199
Transport, post and logistics	122	117	115	119	109	113	124	130	133	132	127	118	146

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

Occupation	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08
Managers	178	190	163	165	150	155	163	170	184	196	211	193	249
Professionals	150	139	124	121	123	144	159	152	140	148	150	153	174
Technicians and associate professionals	88	88	79	77	72	78	84	86	92	102	108	86	107
Clerical support workers	121	129	123	116	116	126	127	145	138	140	142	144	139
Service and sales workers	142	146	141	156	152	139	14	158	171	178	173	153	171
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	103	99	94	98	97	101	106	108	125	131	137	104	103
Craft and related workers	187	175	162	169	149	163	178	165	165	167	173	154	167
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	102	106	104	98	90	95	100	102	105	101	107	88	114
Elementary occupations	122	124	117	143	122	120	134	134	135	138	125	130	130

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

Region	Dec 09	Nov 09	Oct 09	Sep 09	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	106	106	100	101	98	106	105	113	112	120	122	112	130
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	130	129	114	111	106	115	128	126	128	136	142	137	171
<b>Sydsverige Med Öarna</b> (Sydsverige, Småland Med Öarna)	119	114	104	101	99	108	118	117	122	135	138	121	148
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	101	97	89	90	86	93	98	106	105	118	119	101	131

Monster Employment Index data for January will be released on February 9, 2010.

#### **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/>.

**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 and other filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which discussions are incorporated in this release by reference.

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