



## Online Recruitment in Sweden Dips for Second Consecutive Month

### April 2008 Monster Employment Index Highlights

- Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped four points, demonstrating continued deceleration in online hiring activity at the onset of the second quarter
- Online job availability continues upwards in the expanding transport, post and logistics; and research and development sectors
- The accounting, audit and taxes sector registers a steep decline, mirroring uncertainty in global financial markets
- Among occupations, demand eases nearly across the board but all categories except elementary occupations remain above year-ago levels
- All regions across Sweden note a decline with Vatsverige reporting the sharpest decrease

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped four points in April, following on last month's three point decline. While the Monster Employment Index remains up from year-ago readings, the 18 percent annual growth rate seen in April is the lowest in more than a year. Global concerns about the financial markets appear to be adding to the more moderated growth in specific sectors. Overall, numbers suggest that employers are taking a more moderate approach to expanding their workforces amid signs of slower economic growth. The Monster Employment Index Sweden is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from web sites across Europe, including monster.se.

A majority of industries and occupations monitored showed further declines after May's slowdown edged lower in April. Monster Employment Index results for the past 13 months are as follows:

Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07
202	206	209	187	204	191	191	176	165	175	188	183	171

"Online recruitment activity in Sweden declined for a second month in April. Though the economy still shows notable growth year-on-year, it is less robust than in prior months," said Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. "The government has promised to address the current economic concerns with new measures but companies are still approaching expansion with caution due to the global climate of uncertainty."

**Online Opportunities for Key Industries Fall after Several Months of Strong Growth**

Following two months of great increase, the management and consulting sector saw a significant decrease of 32 points in April. The decline was registered across all regions and was driven by significant declines in online recruitment for technicians and associate professionals; legislators, senior officials and managers and professionals. Year-on-year, the category grew 88 points, or 38 percent.

Accounting, audit, taxes also saw decreases after two months of significant gains. The category dropped 21 points due to declining demand for technicians and associate professionals and professionals. Despite the significant decline in April, the year-on-year growth for the industry was 140 points, or 65 percent, the highest among all sectors.

Further indicating a change in the overall economic outlook, the healthcare and social work sector decreased 18 points, following five months of continued growth. This change does not align to known seasonal or recorded sector cycles. This decline was caused by significantly reduced demand for professionals, followed closely by considerable declines in demand for technicians and associate professionals and service workers and shop and market sales workers. This 18 point decline brought the year-on-year growth for the healthcare and social work sector to only one point, or one percent.

**Most Occupational Groups Show Steep Reduction in Online Opportunities**

Signaling a change in outlook, many occupations began showing decreases after several months of gain. Legislators, senior officials and managers registered a 25 point decline after two months of great increases and service workers and shop and market sales workers saw a 16 point drop after three months of significant increases. Both of these occupations saw this reduction in demand across all regions tracked. While both occupational groups continued to show positive year-on-year growth, it was less pronounced than in prior months.

Three occupations showed minor increases in April, including professionals; clerks; and plant and machine operators and assemblers. Professionals led with a gain of three points. This subtle growth matches the trend of a more moderated approach to business growth. Despite only a small, incremental increase, professionals still had a strong year-on-year growth of 58 points, or 37 percent which continues to indicate a cautious but positive overall economic view.

**All Regions Show Declining Online Opportunities**

While some regions saw online demand for specific occupations or sectors rise, taken as a whole, all regions tracked across Sweden saw declines on the Index.

Vastverige registered a 12 point decrease in online recruitment for the second consecutive month. The major declines were seen in the healthcare, social work; management and consulting and marketing; PR and media sectors. By contrast, job availability rose mainly in the public sector, defence and community; education, training

and library and environment, architecture and urbanism sectors. Year-on-year growth for the region was 21 points, or 12 percent.

Sydsverige Med Oarna also showed a slowdown for the second consecutive month. The region dropped 6 points in April, due mainly reduced demand in the management and consulting and accounting, audit and taxes sectors. Online hiring did rise in the research and development; transport, post and logistics; banking, finance, insurance and production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair sectors. Regional year-on-year growth was 29 points, or 15 percent.

### **Top Industries Looking for Employees in April**

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability in April included:

Industry	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07
Transport, post and logistics	266	247	229	209	218	211
Research and development	225	210	205	200	200	188
Public Sector, defence, community	116	111	103	99	103	100
Education, training and library	98	93	93	94	103	94
Banking, finance, insurance	275	272	255	255	284	274

### **Most Wanted Occupational Experience in April**

Occupational categories registering the most significant increases in online job demand in April included:

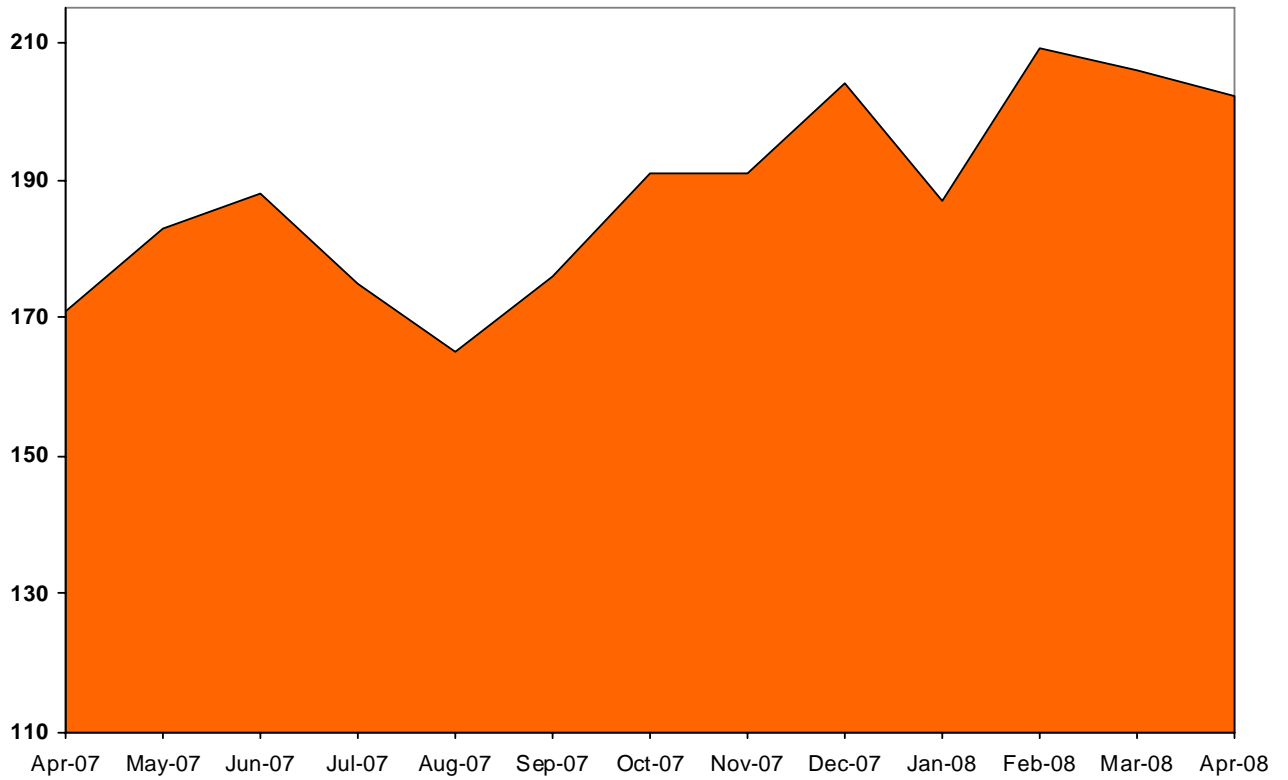
Occupation	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07
Professionals	216	213	190	171	184	168
Clerks	164	163	168	144	151	149
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	251	250	241	208	217	242

### **Online Job Demand Decreases Across All Regions**

Online job opportunities declined in all regions:

Region	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Ovre Norrland)	189	190	171	163	178	159
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	243	244	254	225	251	235
<b>Sydsverige Med Oarna</b> (Sydsverige, Smaland Med Oarna)	228	234	244	207	223	209
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	192	204	207	179	197	186

### Monster Employment Index Sweden



Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07	Jul 07	Aug 07	Sep 07	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08
171	183	188	175	165	176	191	191	204	187	209	206	202

### By Region

Region	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Ovre Norrland)	189	190	171	163	178	159	165	152	139	149	162	156	154
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	243	244	254	225	251	235	229	211	191	207	225	216	204
<b>Sydsverige Med Oarna</b> (Sydsverige, Smaland Med Oarna)	228	234	244	207	223	209	215	192	184	193	208	206	199
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	192	204	207	179	197	186	182	170	160	169	185	182	171

### By Industry

Industry	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	354	375	368	289	321	327	310	274	265	281	273	251	214
Administrative, organisation	327	332	304	257	272	250	266	234	216	226	228	236	219
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	190	203	169	128	125	123	126	124	125	128	136	144	179
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	133	137	181	156	142	139	135	133	136	153	136	136	150
Banking, finance, insurance	275	272	255	255	284	274	265	228	207	235	224	238	239
Construction and extraction	211	220	224	199	211	208	213	200	172	194	192	187	193
Education, training and library	98	93	93	94	103	94	92	93	95	103	115	111	95
Engineering	402	408	377	375	404	387	384	355	317	301	312	293	322
Healthcare, social work	157	175	167	127	127	123	122	124	119	123	135	139	156
Hospitality and tourism	169	174	145	119	122	123	135	143	127	118	139	146	154
IT	445	458	452	409	429	399	387	354	342	355	352	350	340
Management and consulting	317	349	314	297	331	317	311	281	272	280	276	261	229
Marketing, PR and media	88	88	92	94	89	91	88	94	86	89	88	92	95
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	252	259	240	221	228	235	248	221	196	217	232	219	217
Public Sector, defence, community	116	111	103	99	103	100	98	97	98	101	99	102	107
Research and development	225	210	205	200	200	188	181	147	155	170	181	190	171
Sales	284	292	285	259	299	288	296	272	230	240	274	247	234
Telecommunications	251	264	264	218	227	222	252	231	209	230	247	268	330
Transport, post and logistics	266	247	229	209	218	211	220	210	210	215	240	231	209

### By Occupation

Occupation Group	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	371	396	354	347	365	332	348	333	305	340	332	309	275
Professionals	216	213	190	171	184	168	162	155	147	157	171	168	158
Technicians and associate professionals	182	191	185	171	199	184	184	161	150	159	165	161	162
Clerks	164	163	168	144	151	149	157	149	144	141	145	148	142
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	218	234	223	192	196	194	206	208	176	178	207	197	199
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	144	156	140	107	107	105	106	109	108	106	108	118	137
Craft and related workers	226	237	234	199	219	222	230	208	193	213	213	205	204
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	251	250	241	208	217	227	242	229	205	234	254	242	230
Elementary occupations	137	138	170	145	154	150	165	170	158	152	171	176	167

Monster Employment Index Sweden data for May will be released on June 10, 2008.

### **About The Monster Employment Index Sweden**

Providing a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand, the Monster Employment Index Sweden 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.html](http://corporate.monster.com/Press_Room/MEI.html)

### **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).

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