



Sweden Experiences Sixth Month of Decline in Online Job Availability as Monster Employment Index Drops

August 2008 Index Highlights

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden dropped 12 points, arriving at 159 in August, as a sixth consecutive month of tapering online job vacancies brought the Index to its lowest reading since February 2007. Year-on-year the index was down six points, or four percent
- Engineering; accounting; and IT sectors saw the largest declines in August. Marketing, PR and media experienced the largest year-on-year decline
- In contrast, online job availability in research and development; telecommunications; and hospitality and tourism grew in August and remained above their year-earlier levels
- Plant and machine operators and assemblers; and craft and related workers experienced the largest drop among occupational groups. Professionals remain the top year-on-year growth occupational group despite noting slowed recruitment activity in the most recent month
- All regions experienced a decline in online job availability for the third consecutive month, with Ostra Mellansverige showing the steepest decline. Norra Sverige was the only region to show year-on-year growth

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Sweden fell 12 points to a level of 159 in August. The fall partly reflects slowed seasonal recruitment typical of the summer months. However the longer term view, which features a six month downtrend in online job availability, suggests that there has been a clear shift lower in hiring activity among the nations employers. The Monster Employment Index Sweden is a monthly analysis of millions of online job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of corporate career sites and job boards across Europe, including monster.se.

Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
159	171	190	200	202	206	209	187	204	191	191	176	165

“Although the decrease in online job demand in August partly reflects the seasonal slowdown usually seen during the summer months, the large decline of the Index for the past six months shows that companies are restricting their hiring as the economy cools,” said Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. “Whilst there have been fewer offerings in August, the northern regions of Sweden are still holding up compared to other regions.”

Engineering opportunities slump in August whilst hospitality and tourism; and research and development bounce back from a four month decline

Engineering experienced the largest drop among sectors in August, falling 56 points. Demand fell mainly for professionals, however legislators, senior officials and managers; and technicians and associate professionals also fell in August. Opportunities fell across all regions with Vastsverige experiencing the steepest decrease for the third consecutive month. Year-on-year the sector was down 12 points, or four percent, dropping below year-earlier figures for the first time on record.

August also showed the second month of fewer online opportunities for the accounting, auditing and taxes sector, which slumped 48 points. The decline was mainly due to fewer offerings for professionals. Conversely, technicians and associate professionals experienced an increase in demand for the fourth consecutive month. Whilst all regions experienced decline, Vastsverige experienced the steepest drop and Sydsverige Med Oarna fell for the fifth consecutive month.

Hospitality and tourism rose six points in August to end a four month decline. The rise is a result of increasing demand for service workers and shop and market sales workers. Among regions Norra Sverige saw the highest increases.

Plant and machine operators and assemblers see reduced opportunities whilst service workers and shop and market sales workers remain steady

Plant and machine operators and assemblers experienced a decline for the fourth consecutive month, falling 20 points in August. The construction and extraction sector registered the steepest drop whilst the production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair sector fell for the fifth consecutive month. Year-on-year the category was down 47 points, or 23 percent.

Online opportunities also dropped for a second month for professionals, falling 15 points. The education, training and library sector showed steep declines while the environment, architecture and urbanism sector exhibited increased online opportunities. Whilst all regions experienced decline, Ostra Mellansverige charted the largest fall. Year-on-year the category increased 41 points, or 28 percent, the highest increase among occupational groups.

Service workers and shop and market sales workers remained steady, curbing a four month down trend. The decreased offerings in the sales sector were offset by the rise of opportunities in the hospitality and tourism sectors.

All Swedish regions experience decline in August

All Swedish regions registered fewer online job opportunities in August, with Ostra Mellansverige falling for the sixth consecutive month. It had the steepest decline among regions at 22 points for the latest month. Demand in this region was driven down by fewer opportunities in the accounting, auditing and taxes sector. By contrast, the hospitality and tourism sector experienced growth in the region. Most occupational groups experienced decline with only skilled agricultural and fishery workers showing growth.

Sydsverige Med Oarna saw online opportunities drop for the sixth consecutive month, registering a decrease of 15 points. Among sectors, education, training and library; and accounting, audit and taxes sectors saw the largest declines. Conversely, following a three month downward trend the research and development; and banking, finance, and insurance sectors showed slight recovery. Demand fell for all occupational groups in the region. Year-on-year the region is down 17 points, or nine percent, the most of all Swedish regions.

Top Industries Looking for Employees

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability included:

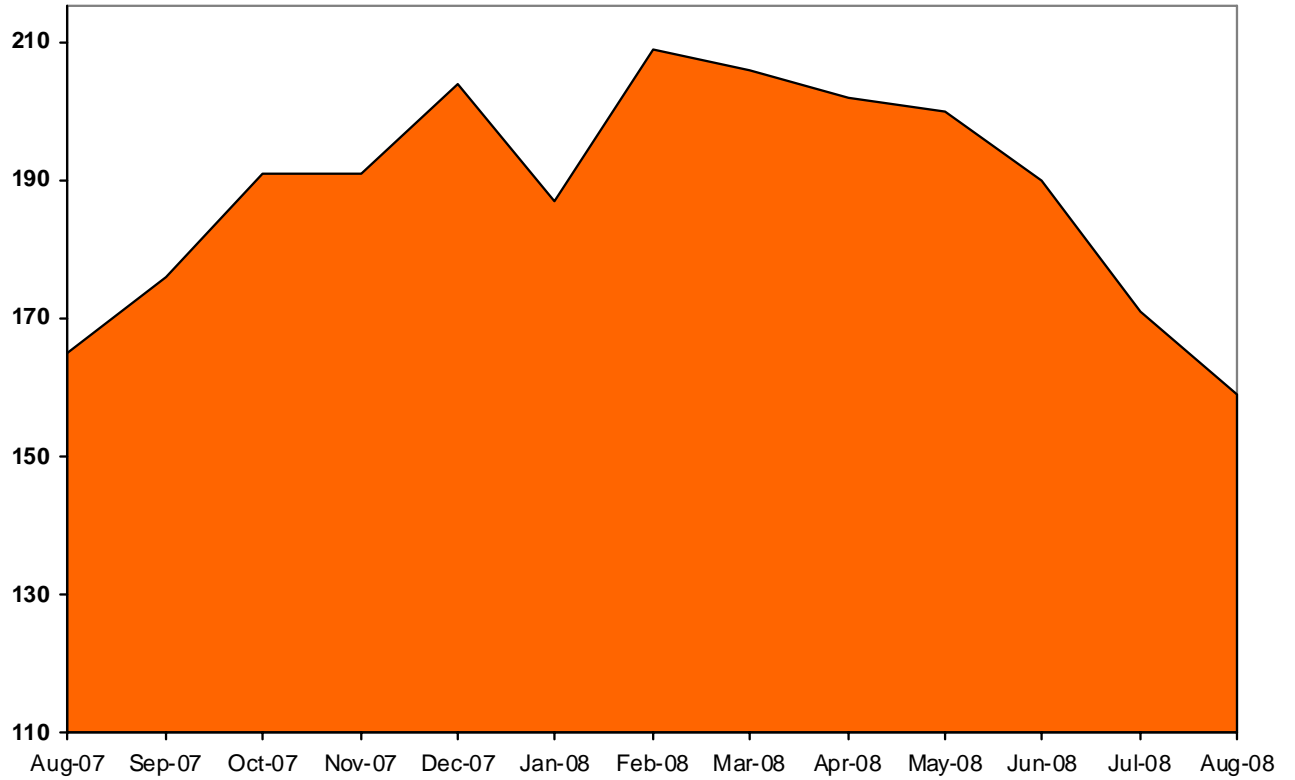
Industry	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08
Hospitality and tourism	131	125	147
Research and development	175	171	184
Telecommunications	247	243	245
Public Sector, defence, community	95	94	87

Most Wanted Occupational Experience

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

Occupation	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	182	182	198

Monster Employment Index Sweden



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

Industry	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	261	309	345	329	354	375	368	289	321	327	310	274	265
Administrative, organisation	240	248	306	336	327	332	304	257	272	250	266	234	216
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	154	163	154	174	190	203	169	128	125	123	126	124	125
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	141	150	129	134	133	137	181	156	142	139	135	133	136
Banking, finance, insurance	211	221	238	261	275	272	255	255	284	274	265	228	207
Construction and extraction	167	181	192	211	211	220	224	199	211	208	213	200	172
Education, training and library	101	109	119	110	98	93	93	94	103	94	92	93	95
Engineering	305	361	382	428	402	408	377	375	404	387	384	355	317
Healthcare, social work	118	122	130	146	157	175	167	127	127	123	122	124	119
Hospitality and tourism	131	125	147	163	169	174	145	119	122	123	135	143	127
IT	362	405	423	420	445	458	452	409	429	399	387	354	342
Management and consulting	266	286	293	316	317	349	314	297	331	317	311	281	272
Marketing, PR and media	80	88	91	93	88	88	92	94	89	91	88	94	86
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	193	203	226	245	252	259	240	221	228	235	248	221	196
Public Sector, defence, community	95	94	87	95	116	111	103	99	103	100	98	97	98
Research and development	175	171	184	209	225	210	205	200	200	188	181	147	155
Sales	232	240	272	277	284	292	285	259	299	288	296	272	230
Telecommunications	247	243	245	247	251	264	264	218	227	222	252	231	209
Transport, post and logistics	207	223	244	256	266	247	229	209	218	211	220	210	210

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

Occupation	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	283	292	327	354	371	396	354	347	365	332	348	333	305
Professionals	188	203	219	219	216	213	190	171	184	168	162	155	147
Technicians and associate professionals	127	136	153	171	182	191	185	171	199	184	184	161	150
Clerks	153	156	160	165	164	163	168	144	151	149	157	149	144
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	182	182	198	213	218	234	223	192	196	194	206	208	176
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	112	116	118	126	144	156	140	107	107	105	106	109	108
Craft and related workers	181	199	209	232	226	237	234	199	219	222	230	208	193
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	158	178	204	229	251	250	241	208	217	227	242	229	205
Elementary occupations	133	135	132	137	137	138	170	145	154	150	165	170	158

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

Region	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07
Norra Sverige (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	151	152	170	177	189	190	171	163	178	159	165	152	139
Ostra Mellansverige (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	186	208	232	243	243	244	254	225	251	235	229	211	191
Sydsverige Med Öarna (Sydsverige, Småland Med Öarna)	167	182	207	223	228	234	244	207	223	209	215	192	184
Vastsverige (Vastsverige)	149	159	180	193	192	204	207	179	197	186	182	170	160

Monster Employment Index Sweden data for September will be released on October 14, 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

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.

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