



Monster Employment Index Sweden Falls in December, as Hiring in the Sales Sector Fails to Pick Up For the Christmas Period

December 2008 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped for the third consecutive month in December as online recruitment activity continued decelerating
- Sales and engineering reported sharply reduced offerings, whilst the banking, finance and insurance sector saw the steepest annual decline
- In contrast, opportunities in the education, training and library sector extended a three-month upward trend, showing solid demand for workers
- Nearly all occupational groups registered weaker demand, with only skilled agricultural and fishery workers remaining stable in the Index
- All regions registered fewer online job opportunities, with Sydsverige Med Oarna and Ostra Mellansverige exhibiting the largest declines

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Sweden dropped 11 points in December, as online job opportunities continued to fall for the third consecutive month. Year-on-year the Index plummeted 59 points, or 29 percent. Sweden did not experience the typical seasonal pick-up in hiring for the Christmas period, as opportunities in the sales sector fell significantly in December. Despite the overall decline in the Index, the education and agricultural sectors experienced some gains. 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 Europe, including monster.se.

Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
145	156	162	167	159	171	190	200	202	206	209	187	204

“The decline in the Index for December was impacted by an unexpected decline in opportunities in the retail sector as it approached the Christmas shopping period,” said Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. “We are used to seeing hiring in the sector increase for the busy Christmas rush, however, the decline further highlights the impact of the current global economic climate on the Swedish labour market.”

Sales sector sees significant decline in online job availability

Online job opportunities in the sales sector plummeted 39 points in December, marking the third consecutive month of decline for the sector as consumer confidence continued to fall in the fourth quarter. All Swedish regions exhibited weaker demand, with opportunities in Ostra Mellansverige registering the sharpest decline. Year-on-year the sector fell 100 points, or 33 percent.

The engineering sector also slumped 39 points in December, settling at a four-month low. Managers noted the strongest fall in demand, as opportunities for professionals also dipped. All regions registered weaker demand for workers in the sector. Year-on-year the sector was down 98 points, or 24 percent.

By contrast, online opportunities in the education, training and library sector bucked the declining trend and saw opportunities rise for the second consecutive month, climbing four points. Opportunities for workers increased for the third month in Sydsverige Med Oarna.

The agriculture, fishing and forestry sector edge slightly higher in the Index, increasing two points. Year-on-year the sector climbed 13 points, or 10 percent, the largest increase among sectors.

Online job demand for technicians and associate professionals weakens in December

Technicians and associate professionals saw online job availability fall 23 points in December, as weaker demand was noted for these workers in the HR; administrative and organisation; banking, finance and insurance; and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. All regions saw declining opportunities for this occupational group for the second consecutive month. Year-on-year decline was 92 points, or 46 percent.

Online job opportunities for plant and machine operators and assemblers slumped 21 points, reflecting weaker demand in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector. Opportunities for these workers also fell in the construction and extraction sector. The occupational group saw the sharpest year-on-year decline, falling 103 points, or 47 percent.

All Swedish regions exhibit weaker online job demand for third consecutive month

Ostra Mellansverige plummeted 17 points in December. Significantly weaker online job availability was noted in the agriculture, fishing and forestry; engineering; HR; and transport, post and logistics sectors. In contrast, December marked the second consecutive month of increased online demand for workers in the education, training and library sector. Opportunities also increased slightly for the research and development sector, whilst the healthcare and social work sector saw opportunities increase following two months of decreased availability. All occupational groups saw eased online recruitment activity, with skilled agricultural and fishery workers registering the sharpest declines. Year-on-year the region was down 80 points, or 32 percent.

Sydsverige Med Oarna slumped 17 points in December, reflecting fewer opportunities in the construction and extraction; engineering; and productions, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. By contrast, offerings rose slightly in the accounting, audit and taxes sector following nine months of consecutive decline. Skilled agricultural and fishery workers were the only occupational group to register increased opportunities as all other groups declined in December, with craft and related workers noting the sharpest decline. Year-on-year the region was down 75 points, or 34 percent.

Top Growth Sectors Month-on-month

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability included:

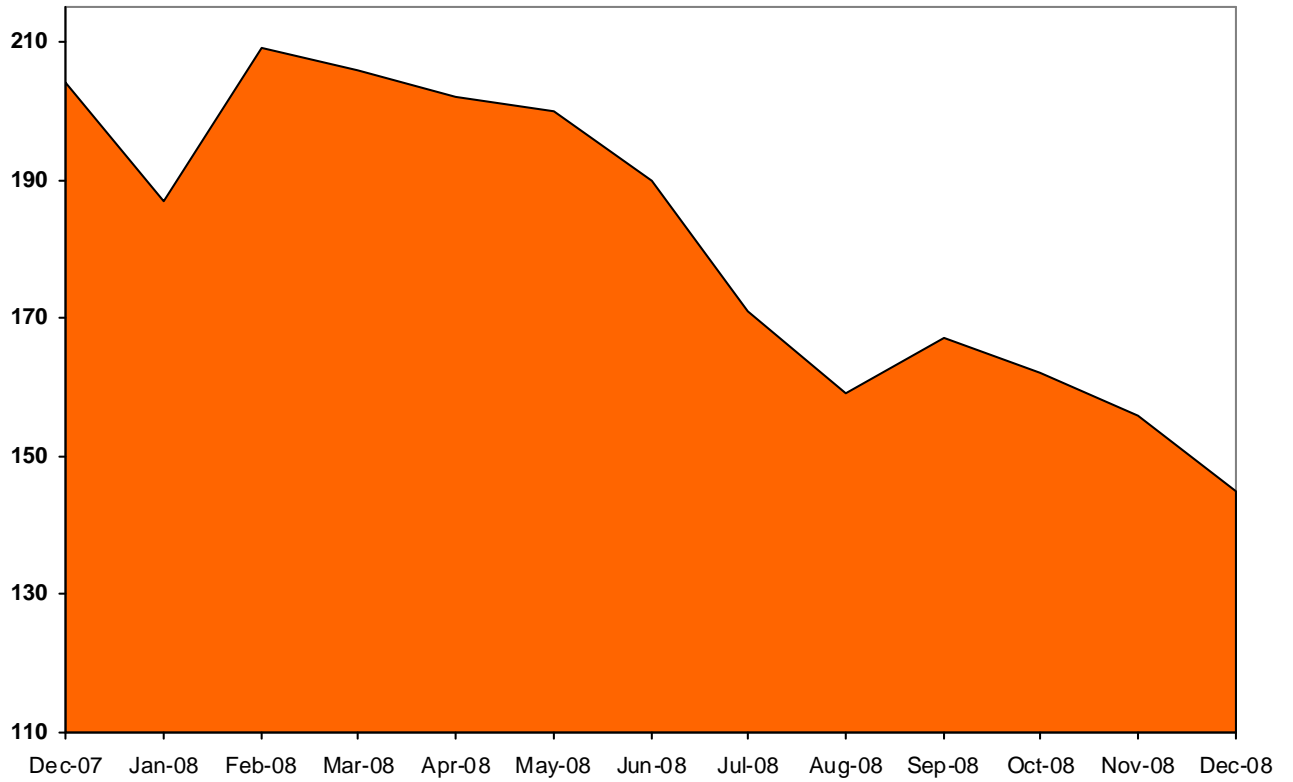
Industry	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08
Education, training and library	101	97	92
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	138	136	146

Top Growth Sectors Year-on-year

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability year-on-year included:

Occupation	Dec 08	Nov 08	Dec 07
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	138	136	125
Telecommunication	240	241	227

Monster Employment Index Sweden



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

Industry	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	249	257	274	271	261	309	345	329	354	375	368	289	321
Administrative, organisation	183	214	232	280	240	248	306	336	327	332	304	257	272
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	138	136	146	149	154	163	154	174	190	203	169	128	125
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	101	109	120	124	141	150	129	134	133	137	181	156	142
Banking, finance, insurance	164	187	227	219	211	221	238	261	275	272	255	255	284
Construction and extraction	163	175	179	184	167	181	192	211	211	220	224	199	211
Education, training and library	101	97	92	94	101	109	119	110	98	93	93	94	103
Engineering	306	345	368	350	305	361	382	428	402	408	377	375	404
Healthcare, social work	114	116	120	125	118	122	130	146	157	175	167	127	127
Hospitality and tourism	107	119	126	147	131	125	147	163	169	174	145	119	122
IT	341	378	395	382	362	405	423	420	445	458	452	409	429
Management and consulting	234	268	258	265	266	286	293	316	317	349	314	297	331
Marketing, PR and media	74	82	87	92	80	88	91	93	88	88	92	94	89
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	145	175	188	218	193	203	226	245	252	259	240	221	228
Public Sector, defence, community	92	95	94	96	95	94	87	95	116	111	103	99	103
Research and development	152	169	148	149	175	171	184	209	225	210	205	200	200
Sales	199	238	249	254	232	240	272	277	284	292	285	259	299
Telecommunications	240	241	245	248	247	243	245	247	251	264	264	218	227
Transport, post and logistics	146	170	190	216	207	223	244	256	266	247	229	209	218

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

Occupation	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Managers	249	270	268	295	283	292	327	354	371	396	354	347	365
Professionals	174	186	185	185	188	203	219	219	216	213	190	171	184
Technicians and associate professionals	107	130	141	143	127	136	153	171	182	191	185	171	199
Clerical support workers	139	146	151	159	153	156	160	165	164	163	168	144	151
Service and sales workers	171	176	187	206	182	182	198	213	218	234	223	192	196
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	103	103	111	112	112	116	118	126	144	156	140	107	107
Craft and related workers	167	183	196	203	181	199	209	232	226	237	234	199	219
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	114	135	173	185	158	178	204	229	251	250	241	208	217
Elementary occupations	130	143	140	148	133	135	132	137	137	138	170	145	154

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

Region	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07
Norra Sverige (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	130	143	150	152	151	152	170	177	189	190	171	163	178
Ostra Mellansverige (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	171	188	193	199	186	208	232	243	243	244	254	225	251
Sydsverige Med Öarna (Sydsverige, Smaland Med Öarna)	148	165	172	174	167	182	207	223	228	234	244	207	223
Vastsverige (Vastsverige)	131	137	146	158	149	159	180	193	192	204	207	179	197

Monster Employment Index Sweden data for January will be released on February 10, 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://corporate.monster.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp.

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 and the NYSE. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit www.monster.com. More information about Monster Worldwide is available at <http://corporate.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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