



Online Recruitment in Sweden Declines Sharply in January

— *Sharp declines within Sales, Management & Consulting, Accounting, Banking & finance* —

Stockholm, February 12, 2008 – Online recruitment activity across Sweden declined sharply in January according to the Monster Employment Index Sweden. The Index fell 17 points to 187. Sectors showing the greatest decreases include sales; management and consulting; accounting, audit and taxes; and banking, finance and insurance. The Monster Employment Index is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from web sites across Europe, including monster.se.

“Online hiring in Sweden tends to see seasonal fluctuation at the close and beginning of the year; however, this year the decline is more significant than previous years”, commented Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. “While the same decline in online recruitment is being seen in all other European countries monitored by the Index, Sweden stands out as the top growth market year-on-year despite its January decline.”

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

Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
187	204	191	191	176	165	175	188	183	171	163	157	136

Online Job Opportunities in Management and Consulting; and Banking, Finance and Insurance Decline after Four Months of Steady Growth

The industry showing the greatest slowing in January was sales, with a 40 point drop driven by fewer opportunities for technicians and associate professionals; and elementary workers.

The management and consulting sector declined 34 points in January after four consecutive months of growth. The sharpest decline in online recruiting in this sector was seen in legislators, senior officials and managers. In contrast, there was an increase in demand for professionals for the second consecutive month.

Banking, finance and insurance also saw a sharp decline after four consecutive months of growth, with the sector seeing a drop of 29 points in January. Within this sector, job recruitment for technicians and associate professionals showed the sharpest decrease in demand, while professionals showed an increase. Accounting, audit, taxes registered a second consecutive month of decline in January, falling 32 points, with fewer opportunities across all Swedish regions Sweden. Despite the fall, year-on-year growth was high, at 135 points, or 88 percent.

Despite the broad slowing in online recruitment in January, a few industries did post increases, with arts, entertainment, sports and leisure leading with an increase in the Index of 14 points in January. This marked that sector's fourth consecutive month of increasing demand. Agriculture, fishing and forestry reported a modest three point gain and marketing, PR and media showed a five point gain.

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

Industry	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	289	321	327	310	274	265	281	273	251	214	177	174	154
Administrative, organisation	257	272	250	266	234	216	226	228	236	219	203	189	165
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	128	125	123	126	124	125	128	136	144	179	165	130	110
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	156	142	139	135	133	136	153	136	136	150	136	120	111
Banking, finance, insurance	255	284	274	265	228	207	235	224	238	239	216	215	209
Construction and extraction	199	211	208	213	200	172	194	192	187	193	184	171	147
Education, training and library	94	103	94	92	93	95	103	115	111	95	88	92	93
Engineering	375	404	387	384	355	317	301	312	293	322	287	294	256
Healthcare, social work	127	127	123	122	124	119	123	135	139	156	160	145	116
Hospitality and tourism	119	122	123	135	143	127	118	139	146	154	138	120	103
IT	409	429	399	387	354	342	355	352	350	340	347	317	239
Management and consulting	297	331	317	311	281	272	280	276	261	229	219	240	199
Marketing, PR and media	94	89	91	88	94	86	89	88	92	95	89	95	87
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	221	228	235	248	221	196	217	232	219	217	203	194	158
Public Sector, defence, community	99	103	100	98	97	98	101	99	102	107	108	126	119
Research and development	200	200	188	181	147	155	170	181	190	171	164	172	156
Sales	259	299	288	296	272	230	240	274	247	234	209	203	169
Telecommunication	218	227	222	252	231	209	230	247	268	330	276	279	226
Transport, post and logistics	209	218	211	220	210	210	215	240	231	209	183	154	142

Most Occupations Report Decline in Online Recruitment in January, as Demand for Agricultural Workers Remains Flat

Recruiting for technicians and associate professionals declined by 28 points after registering increases for the past four months. These declines were fueled by a slowing in demand across banking, finance and insurance; engineering; and transport, post and logistics. Other occupations showing a reduction in demand after previous months of increases include legislators, senior officials and managers, with a decline of 18 points; and professionals, with a decline of 13 points.

Some occupations saw further declines in January following a trend of slowing in the latter months of 2007. Craft and related workers reported a 20 point decline in online recruitment, showing a reduction in demand for the third consecutive month. This decline was reported mainly in the construction and extraction and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair No occupational group reported any growth in January.

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

Occupation Group	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	347	365	332	348	333	305	340	332	309	275	259	243	202
Professionals	171	184	168	162	155	147	157	171	168	158	150	151	132
Technicians and associate professionals	171	199	184	184	161	150	159	165	161	162	155	151	133
Clerks	144	151	149	157	149	144	141	145	148	142	132	127	114
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	192	196	194	206	208	176	178	207	197	199	178	167	140
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	107	107	105	106	109	108	106	108	118	137	130	113	104
Craft and related workers	199	219	222	230	208	193	213	213	205	204	195	158	144
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	208	217	227	242	229	205	234	254	242	230	199	171	157
Elementary occupations	145	154	150	165	170	158	152	171	176	167	143	137	119

Online Job Demand Declines Sharply in All Regions

After leading regional Index growth with a rise of 19 points in December 2007, Norra Sverige showed a sharp decline in online recruitment in January 2008 falling 15 points on the Index. Despite the sharp decline, the region showed the lowest decline across Sweden.

Following four months of increase, Ostra Mellansverige showed the greatest decline across all regions in Sweden. The Index reported a fall of 26 points across the region, with decreasing demand for workers in the education, training and library; engineering; sales; and management and consulting sectors. However, there was an increase in sectors such as healthcare and social work; and marketing, PR and media.

Vastsverige also showed a significant decline in January after four months of growth. Falling by 18 points, job recruitment dipped mainly in banking, finance, insurance; education, training and library and management and consulting; while some growth was seen in telecommunications. Most occupational categories reported declines with technicians and associate professionals showing the deepest drops, however, there was an increase in demand craft and related workers.

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

Region	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
Norra Sverige (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Ovre Norrland)	163	178	159	165	152	139	149	162	156	154	142	133	120
Ostra Mellansverige (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	225	251	235	229	211	191	207	225	216	204	186	175	150
Sydsverige Med Oarna (Sydsverige, Smaland Med Oarna)	207	223	209	215	192	184	193	208	206	199	188	185	146
Vastsverige (Vastsverige)	179	197	186	182	170	160	169	185	182	171	160	151	127

Monster Employment Index Sweden for February will be released on March 11, 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 France, Germany, the UK, the Netherlands and Europe are available at:

http://www.monsterworldwide.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp

About Monster Worldwide

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