



## **Online Recruitment in Sweden Eases in March, According to Monster Employment Index**

**— Hiring Activity Declines in Arts, Entertainment, Sports and Leisure —**

**— Opportunities for Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers Show Steep Increase, while Elementary Workers See Significant Decline —**

**Stockholm, April 8, 2008** – Online recruitment activity across Sweden slowed in March as the Monster Employment Index registered a three point decline following a sharp increase in February. Year-on-year, the Index rose 43 points, or 26 percent, indicating somewhat slower online hiring growth than in previous months. 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.

“The first quarter saw an overall softening in online recruitment growth but job availability remains high across all parts of the country” commented Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. “Sweden’s unemployment rate continued to fall and while that usually correlates to increased levels of recruiting, the Index is indicating a slightly more balanced response to current economic concerns.”

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

Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07
206	209	187	204	191	191	176	165	175	188	183	171	163

### **Industry sectors show high degree of variance with steep rises and losses**

Arts, entertainment, sports and leisure saw a steep decline of 44 points, following five months of consecutive growth. This is partially accounted for by seasonal changes after a gradual build-up in demand during the winter sports season. The sectors losses were led by a significantly reduced demand for professionals, which had seen increasing online job availability for the past five months.

On the other end of the scale, management and consulting jumped 35 points as the sector registered a strong increase for the second consecutive month. Online hiring showed the

largest growth among legislators, senior officials and managers, with professionals also registering significant increase. Year-on-year growth for the sector was 130 points, or 59 percent. Agriculture, fishing and forestry also registered a significant 34 point gain in March, marking growth for the fourth consecutive month. Nearly matching the growth, engineering also saw a large upswing with a gain of 31 points on the Index.

However, the majority of the industry sectors saw growth in-line with the historical trend of the Index in Sweden. Not including the few sectors experiencing drastic changes mentioned above, the industries tracked showed a growth range of five to 29 points with three sectors posting losses of four to seven points.

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

Industry	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	375	368	289	321	327	310	274	265	281	273	251	214	177
Administrative, organisation	332	304	257	272	250	266	234	216	226	228	236	219	203
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	203	169	128	125	123	126	124	125	128	136	144	179	165
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	137	181	156	142	139	135	133	136	153	136	136	150	136
Banking, finance, insurance	272	255	255	284	274	265	228	207	235	224	238	239	216
Construction and extraction	220	224	199	211	208	213	200	172	194	192	187	193	184
Education, training and library	93	93	94	103	94	92	93	95	103	115	111	95	88
Engineering	408	377	375	404	387	384	355	317	301	312	293	322	287
Healthcare, social work	175	167	127	127	123	122	124	119	123	135	139	156	160
Hospitality and tourism	174	145	119	122	123	135	143	127	118	139	146	154	138
IT	458	452	409	429	399	387	354	342	355	352	350	340	347
Management and consulting	349	314	297	331	317	311	281	272	280	276	261	229	219
Marketing, PR and media	88	92	94	89	91	88	94	86	89	88	92	95	89
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	259	240	221	228	235	248	221	196	217	232	219	217	203
Public Sector, defence, community	111	103	99	103	100	98	97	98	101	99	102	107	108
Research and development	210	205	200	200	188	181	147	155	170	181	190	171	164
Sales	292	285	259	299	288	296	272	230	240	274	247	234	209
Telecommunications	264	264	218	227	222	252	231	209	230	247	268	330	276
Transport, post and logistics	247	229	209	218	211	220	210	210	215	240	231	209	183

### **Online Recruiting Jumps for Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers**

After February's broad increases, some occupational categories registered strong growth in online job availability, while others showed steep losses. In general, the trend was towards growth with only two occupational categories losing ground. For the second consecutive month, the Index registered a gain for legislators, senior officials and managers with the category jumping by 42 points in March. The growth was attributed to increases

in the banking, finance, insurance, and management and consulting sectors. Year-on-year growth for the category was 137 points, or 53 percent.

Also showing growth for the second month, professionals registered a 23 point increase in the Index due to increasing demand in the agricultural, fishing and forestry; accounting, audit and taxes; and management and consulting sectors.

Following a noticeably sharp increase in February, elementary occupations fell on the Index by 32 points, moving back to a more average demand level. This fall was fueled by reduced demand across the board, particularly in agriculture, fishing and forestry; transport, post and logistics; and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. Year-on-year, this occupational category declined 5 points, or 3 percent.

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

<b>Occupation Group</b>	<b>Mar 08</b>	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	396	354	347	365	332	348	333	305	340	332	309	275	259
Professionals	213	190	171	184	168	162	155	147	157	171	168	158	150
Technicians and associate professionals	191	185	171	199	184	184	161	150	159	165	161	162	155
Clerks	163	168	144	151	149	157	149	144	141	145	148	142	132
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	234	223	192	196	194	206	208	176	178	207	197	199	178
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	156	140	107	107	105	106	109	108	106	108	118	137	130
Craft and related workers	237	234	199	219	222	230	208	193	213	213	205	204	195
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	250	241	208	217	227	242	229	205	234	254	242	230	199
Elementary occupations	138	170	145	154	150	165	170	158	152	171	176	167	143

### **Norra Sverige Shows Highest Year-On-Year Growth**

Despite the general decline in demand in the country, Norra Sverige saw a 19 point uptick in online hiring activity in March. Strong growth was supported by surges in the management and consulting; public sector, defence, community; hospitality and tourism; and agriculture, fishing and forestry sectors. Among occupational groups, the strongest growth was registered among professionals and legislators, senior officials and managers. Year-on-year growth was 48 points, or 34 percent, the highest increase among regions. This is a huge turn-around for the region as its growth in February has left it still unrecovered from significant January losses.

Highly affected by losses in the arts, entertainment, sports and leisure sector, Ostra Mellansverige saw a ten point reduction in online recruiting in March. Though not quite balancing the losses, some gains were seen in the region in increased demand in the accounting, audit and taxes sector. Despite the loss, the region still showed steady year-

on-year growth of 58 points of 31 percent. With similar growth and losses, Sydsverige Med Oarna also fell by ten points for a year-on-year growth of 46 points or 24 percent.

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

Region	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	190	171	163	178	159	165	152	139	149	162	156	154	142
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	244	254	225	251	235	229	211	191	207	225	216	204	186
<b>Sydsverige Med Oarna</b> (Sydsverige, Smaland Med Oarna)	234	244	207	223	209	215	192	184	193	208	206	199	188
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	204	207	179	197	186	182	170	160	169	185	182	171	160

Monster Employment Index Sweden for April will be released on May 13, 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\\_EU.asp](http://corporate.monster.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp).

#### **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).

**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.

#### CONTACTS

Stefan Rizvi  
Monster Worldwide Sweden  
+46 8506 523 61  
[stefan.rizvi@monster.se](mailto:stefan.rizvi@monster.se)



# EMPLOYMENT I N D E X

## Monster Employment Index Sweden

