



# EMPLOYMENT I N D E X

## Online Job Availability Down across Sweden as Monster Employment Index Dips for Third Month

### May 2008 Monster Employment Index Highlights

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped two points continuing a three month decline, following a peak during the first quarter of 2008
- Accounting and IT registered the steepest declines, while telecommunications showed the most marked year-on-year decline, dropping 21 points
- Engineering rose again, solidifying its position as the top growth sector in the Index
- Plant and machine operators saw the steepest decline in online job availability as a result of fewer opportunities in the goods-producing sector
- Regionally, Norra Sverige saw the steepest decline in May

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped two points in May, as online recruitment activity showed a further decline after a peak in February. The Index grew just 17 points year-on-year, or nine percent, representing the slowest annual growth rate in two years. However, demand for engineers continued soaring, mirroring reports of skilled labour shortages in the industrial sector. 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.

May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
200	202	206	209	187	204	191	191	176	165	175	188	183

“The continued fall in online recruitment activity this month offers a strong indication that the Swedish economy is now slowing following an extended period of robust growth,” said Carl Silverstolpe, Managing Director Monster Scandinavia. “Nevertheless, overall online job availability remains significantly higher than a year ago, and demand for workers remains very elevated in some sectors such as engineering, where employers are reporting difficulties to find enough qualified candidates.”

**Accounting, audit and taxes sees slump in demand as engineering sector recovers from April slow-down**

The accounting, audit and taxes sector fell 25 points in May as online job opportunities declined within the professionals segment. Regionally, job availability dipped most in Vastsverige. Despite the sharp fall, the sector remains up by a strong margin of 78 points, or 31 percent, on an annual basis.

Workers in the IT sector also saw a substantial drop in demand amid fewer opportunities for technicians and associate professionals. There were also fewer jobs for professionals, while all regions registered the decline. Year-on-year, the IT sector remains up by 70 points, or 20 percent.

One sector bucking the trend this month was engineering, which saw opportunities surge by 26 points, as demand for professionals grew for a second consecutive month. Most regions reported an increase, with only Norra Sverige registering fewer opportunities. Following the rise, year-on-year growth for engineering workers was up by 135 points, or 46 percent, the highest among industry sectors

Education, training and library also saw a sharp rise of 12 points in May, showing a third consecutive month of increase. Online job availability rose substantially for professionals across all regions. Despite the fall, the sector remains down year-on-year, having declined one point, or one percent.

**Plant and machine operators and skilled agricultural and fishery workers see online opportunities slump**

A slump in demand for plant and machine operators and assemblers was reported following three months of consecutive growth. Demand fell 22 points as the construction and extraction; and transport, post and logistics sectors sought fewer workers. The fall was consistent across all regions, with Vastsverige registering the steepest decline. Year-on-year, the category declined 13 points, or five percent.

Skilled agricultural and fishery workers also saw a major decline, falling 18 points due to fewer opportunities in agriculture, fishing and forestry. Vastsverige was also the main contributor to this decline, while year-on-year growth was just eight points, or seven percent.

Meanwhile, craft-related workers saw a six-point upturn in May, driven by the construction and extraction; and production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. Most of the regions saw an increase in demand, with the exception of Sydsverige Med Oarna. Year-on-year growth for craft workers was 27 points, or 13 percent. Professionals also saw a solid rise in May, as demand grew for the fourth consecutive month.

**Norra Sverige reports sharp decline in online job availability**

Norra Sverige registered a second month of consecutive decline in May, falling 12 points as a result of a sharp decline in job availability for workers in the research and development sector. This came following a large increase in April. Public, defence and community; agriculture, fishing and forestry; and IT also dipped. Occupations seeing

most opportunities included clerks; and craft-related workers. Year-on-year growth across the region was 21 points, or 13 percent.

There was also sharply lowered demand in Sydsverige Med Oarna, with a six-point fall coming as a result of major declines in the public, defence and community; and research and development sectors. Year-on-year growth was 17 points, or eight percent.

Vastsverige was the only region to show signs of moderate recovery in May, with surging growth in the education, training and library sector offset by fall-offs in the sales; construction and extraction; production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair; management and consulting; and hospitality and tourism sectors. The region saw online recruiting grow by 11 points, or six percent year-on-year.

**Top Industries Looking for Employees**

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability included:

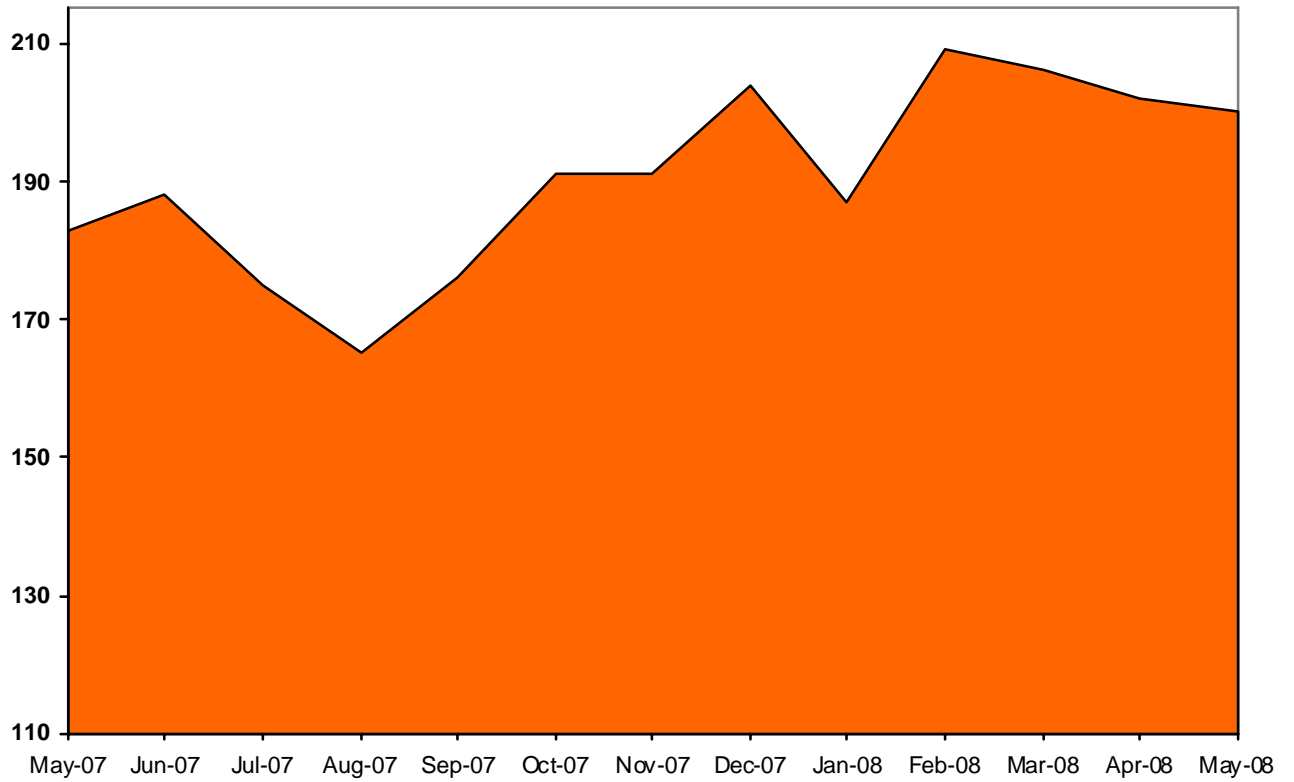
Industry	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08
Engineering	428	402	408
Education, training and library	110	98	93
Administrative, organisation	336	327	332
Marketing, PR and media	93	88	88
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	134	133	137

**Most Wanted Occupational Experience**

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

Occupation	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08
Craft and related workers	232	226	237
Professionals	219	216	213
Clerks	165	164	163
Elementary occupations	137	137	138

### Monster Employment Index Sweden



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

Industry	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	329	354	375	368	289	321	327	310	274	265	281	273	251
Administrative, organisation	336	327	332	304	257	272	250	266	234	216	226	228	236
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	174	190	203	169	128	125	123	126	124	125	128	136	144
Arts, entertainment, sports, leisure	134	133	137	181	156	142	139	135	133	136	153	136	136
Banking, finance, insurance	261	275	272	255	255	284	274	265	228	207	235	224	238
Construction and extraction	211	211	220	224	199	211	208	213	200	172	194	192	187
Education, training and library	110	98	93	93	94	103	94	92	93	95	103	115	111
Engineering	428	402	408	377	375	404	387	384	355	317	301	312	293
Healthcare, social work	146	157	175	167	127	127	123	122	124	119	123	135	139
Hospitality and tourism	163	169	174	145	119	122	123	135	143	127	118	139	146
IT	420	445	458	452	409	429	399	387	354	342	355	352	350
Management and consulting	316	317	349	314	297	331	317	311	281	272	280	276	261
Marketing, PR and media	93	88	88	92	94	89	91	88	94	86	89	88	92
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	245	252	259	240	221	228	235	248	221	196	217	232	219
Public Sector, defence, community	95	116	111	103	99	103	100	98	97	98	101	99	102
Research and development	209	225	210	205	200	200	188	181	147	155	170	181	190
Sales	277	284	292	285	259	299	288	296	272	230	240	274	247
Telecommunications	247	251	264	264	218	227	222	252	231	209	230	247	268
Transport, post and logistics	256	266	247	229	209	218	211	220	210	210	215	240	231

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

<b>Occupation Group</b>	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	354	371	396	354	347	365	332	348	333	305	340	332	309
Professionals	219	216	213	190	171	184	168	162	155	147	157	171	168
Technicians and associate professionals	171	182	191	185	171	199	184	184	161	150	159	165	161
Clerks	165	164	163	168	144	151	149	157	149	144	141	145	148
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	213	218	234	223	192	196	194	206	208	176	178	207	197
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	126	144	156	140	107	107	105	106	109	108	106	108	118
Craft and related workers	232	226	237	234	199	219	222	230	208	193	213	213	205
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	229	251	250	241	208	217	227	242	229	205	234	254	242
Elementary occupations	137	137	138	170	145	154	150	165	170	158	152	171	176

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

<b>Region</b>	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland)	177	189	190	171	163	178	159	165	152	139	149	162	156
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm)	243	243	244	254	225	251	235	229	211	191	207	225	216
<b>Sydsverige Med Öarna</b> (Sydsverige, Småland Med Öarna)	223	228	234	244	207	223	209	215	192	184	193	208	206
<b>Vastsverige</b> (Vastsverige)	193	192	204	207	179	197	186	182	170	160	169	185	182

Monster Employment Index Sweden data for June will be released on July 8, 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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