

Online Recruitment Activity in Sweden Eases Further, Reports Monster Employment Index

May 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index Sweden fell for the third consecutive month in May, as online job availability continued trending lower
- Major declines in online demand were seen in the IT; media; and R&D sectors, offsetting increased hiring in the education; and engineering sectors. The agriculture, fishing and forestry sector contracted 20 percent in May, the sharpest amongst all sectors
- Compared to year-earlier figures, the Index slumped 43 percent, maintaining the same rate of decline compared to the previous month

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index Sweden dipped two points or two percent in May, extending the downward trend in online recruitment since early 2008. The latest findings mirror recent reports of rising number of layoffs and rising unemployment. Still, the annual Index decline of 43 percent was largely unchanged from previous months, indicating that the sharp downshift in employer demand could be bottoming out.

Opportunities fell most significantly in the IT; marketing, PR and media; and research and development sectors, areas currently targeted by businesses trying to cut costs. However, public sector job opportunities in areas such as education are bucking the national trend and continue to grow.

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.

| May 09 | Apr 09 | Mar 09 | Feb 09 | Jan 09 | Dec 08 | Nov 08 | Oct 08 | Sep 08 | Aug 08 | Jul 08 | Jun 08 | May 08 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 115 | 117 | 127 | 130 | 121 | 145 | 156 | 162 | 167 | 159 | 171 | 190 | 200 |

"The sustained slowdown in Swedish online recruitment activity shows that the labour market continues to weaken under the weight of the faltering economy," said Carl Silverstolpe, managing director Monster Scandinavia. "Despite the broad downturn in hiring, the public sector reached a six-month Index high in May and is one of few areas showing positive growth."

Private sector jobs decline while public sector opportunities remain stable

The research and development sector fell 32 points, or 19 percent. Demand for scientists and other R&D functions have eased significantly as businesses have scaled back on investments. Compared to year earlier figures, the sector dropped 34 percent.

Online job offerings in marketing, PR and media fell nine points, or 13 percent in May and the sector is now at its lowest level since the inception of the Index. The sector has declined steadily since February 2009, mirroring reported cuts in advertising spend during the current economic climate. Year-on-year opportunities are down 34 percent.

Conversely, the education, training and library sector soared 18 points, or 20 percent, due to seasonal rise in demand for teachers. Overall, the sector has held up well during the turbulent economic environment as offerings have only seen a slight decline of two percent compared to May 2008.

Meanwhile, opportunities in the public, defence and community sector reached a six-month high, jumping seven points, or eight percent and was the only industry sector not to exhibit an annual decline, with opportunities remaining flat.

Demand for skilled agricultural workers declines for third consecutive month; professionals and clerical support workers rise

Online opportunities for skilled agricultural and fishery workers fell 17 points or 14 percent in May, marking the third month of fewer offerings for this occupational group. On an annual basis, however, opportunities were down by a relatively moderate 14 percent. Instead, plant and machine operators and assemblers saw the sharpest rate of annual decline among occupational groups, dropping 55 percent compared to May 2008.

In comparison, professionals halted its five month declining trend and jumped 12 points, or nine percent in the May Index, as demand for engineers bounced back. Meanwhile, clerical support workers also saw an increase in online recruitment activity as opportunities climbed seven points or five percent.

Vastsverige and Norra Sverige see slight uptick in online worker demand

Sydsverige med Oarna extended its declining trend to a third straight month in May, as the region dipped five points, or four percent, in the Index. The region suffered from weaker demand for workers in the healthcare sector.

Opportunities in Ostra Mellansverige dipped two points, or two percent, marking the third month of consecutive decline for the region, driven by reduced demand for IT workers.

Online recruitment activity in the Vastsverige rose one point in May, fuelled by increased demand for workers in the manufacturing sector. Despite the slight uptick, online worker demand in the region was down 45 percent year-on-year. Norra Sverige also increased one point in May, as demand increased for both workers in the sales; and education sectors. The region also represented the smallest annual decline, with opportunities falling 36 percent overall. Opportunities in the region for workers in the education sector are up compared to May 2008.

Best Performing Sectors

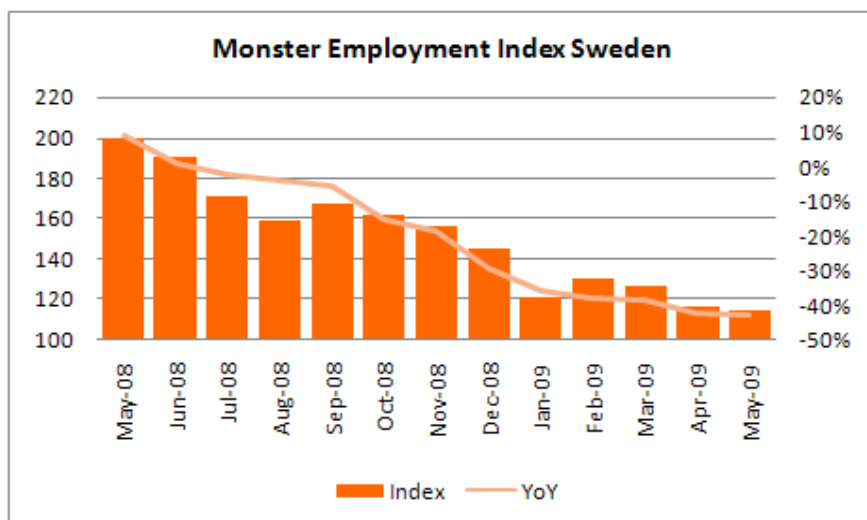
Industries showing the best performance included:

Month-on-month

| Industry | May 09 | Apr 09 | % |
|--|--------|--------|-----|
| Education, training and library | 108 | 90 | 20% |
| Engineering | 181 | 162 | 12% |
| Public sector, defence, community | 95 | 88 | 8% |
| Construction and extraction | 157 | 153 | 3% |
| Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair | 110 | 111 | -1% |

Year-on-year

| Industry | May 09 | May 08 | % |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|------|
| Public sector, defence, community | 95 | 95 | 0% |
| Education, training and library | 108 | 110 | -2% |
| Healthcare, social work | 120 | 146 | -18% |
| Agriculture, fishing and forestry | 132 | 174 | -24% |
| Hospitality and tourism | 120 | 163 | -26% |



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

| Industry | May 09 | Apr 09 | Mar 09 | Feb 09 | Jan 09 | Dec 08 | Nov 08 | Oct 08 | Sep 08 | Aug 08 | Jul 08 | Jun 08 | May 08 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Accounting, audit, taxes | 227 | 236 | 234 | 223 | 232 | 249 | 257 | 274 | 271 | 261 | 309 | 345 | 329 |
| Administrative, organisation | 137 | 145 | 162 | 190 | 148 | 183 | 214 | 232 | 280 | 240 | 248 | 306 | 336 |
| Agriculture, fishing and forestry | 132 | 164 | 173 | 178 | 142 | 138 | 136 | 146 | 149 | 154 | 163 | 154 | 174 |
| Banking, finance, insurance | 102 | 109 | 119 | 129 | 142 | 164 | 187 | 227 | 219 | 211 | 221 | 238 | 261 |
| Construction and extraction | 157 | 153 | 159 | 163 | 143 | 163 | 175 | 179 | 184 | 167 | 181 | 192 | 211 |
| Education, training and library | 108 | 90 | 89 | 90 | 90 | 101 | 97 | 92 | 94 | 101 | 109 | 119 | 110 |
| Engineering | 181 | 162 | 181 | 206 | 245 | 306 | 345 | 368 | 350 | 305 | 361 | 382 | 428 |
| Healthcare, social work | 120 | 137 | 157 | 145 | 104 | 114 | 116 | 120 | 125 | 118 | 122 | 130 | 146 |
| Hospitality and tourism | 120 | 128 | 134 | 118 | 100 | 107 | 119 | 126 | 147 | 131 | 125 | 147 | 163 |
| IT | 214 | 238 | 256 | 263 | 285 | 341 | 378 | 395 | 382 | 362 | 405 | 423 | 420 |
| Management and consulting | 167 | 175 | 188 | 188 | 199 | 234 | 268 | 258 | 265 | 266 | 286 | 293 | 316 |
| Marketing, PR and media | 61 | 70 | 70 | 77 | 68 | 74 | 82 | 87 | 92 | 80 | 88 | 91 | 93 |
| Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair | 110 | 111 | 122 | 135 | 129 | 145 | 175 | 188 | 218 | 193 | 203 | 226 | 245 |
| Public sector, defence, community | 95 | 88 | 91 | 91 | 90 | 92 | 95 | 94 | 96 | 95 | 94 | 87 | 95 |
| Research and development | 137 | 169 | 178 | 154 | 156 | 152 | 169 | 148 | 149 | 175 | 171 | 184 | 209 |
| Sales | 164 | 170 | 164 | 189 | 175 | 199 | 238 | 249 | 254 | 232 | 240 | 272 | 277 |
| Transport, post and logistics | 130 | 133 | 132 | 127 | 118 | 146 | 170 | 190 | 216 | 207 | 223 | 244 | 256 |

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

| Occupation | May 09 | Apr 09 | Mar 09 | Feb 09 | Jan 09 | Dec 08 | Nov 08 | Oct 08 | Sep 08 | Aug 08 | Jul 08 | Jun 08 | May 08 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Managers | 170 | 184 | 196 | 211 | 193 | 249 | 270 | 268 | 295 | 283 | 292 | 327 | 354 |
| Professionals | 152 | 140 | 148 | 150 | 153 | 174 | 186 | 185 | 185 | 188 | 203 | 219 | 219 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 86 | 92 | 102 | 108 | 86 | 107 | 130 | 141 | 143 | 127 | 136 | 153 | 171 |
| Clerical support workers | 145 | 138 | 140 | 142 | 144 | 139 | 146 | 151 | 159 | 153 | 156 | 160 | 165 |
| Service and sales workers | 158 | 171 | 178 | 173 | 153 | 171 | 176 | 187 | 206 | 182 | 182 | 198 | 213 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | 108 | 125 | 131 | 137 | 104 | 103 | 103 | 111 | 112 | 112 | 116 | 118 | 126 |
| Craft and related workers | 165 | 165 | 167 | 173 | 154 | 167 | 183 | 196 | 203 | 181 | 199 | 209 | 232 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 102 | 105 | 101 | 107 | 88 | 114 | 135 | 173 | 185 | 158 | 178 | 204 | 229 |
| Elementary occupations | 134 | 135 | 138 | 125 | 130 | 130 | 143 | 140 | 148 | 133 | 135 | 132 | 137 |

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

| Region | May 09 | Apr 09 | Mar 09 | Feb 09 | Jan 09 | Dec 08 | Nov 08 | Oct 08 | Sep 08 | Aug 08 | Jul 08 | Jun 08 | May 08 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Norra Sverige (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norrland, Övre Norrland) | 113 | 112 | 120 | 122 | 112 | 130 | 143 | 150 | 152 | 151 | 152 | 170 | 177 |
| Ostra Mellansverige (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholm) | 126 | 128 | 136 | 142 | 137 | 171 | 188 | 193 | 199 | 186 | 208 | 232 | 243 |
| Sydsverige Med Öarna (Sydsverige, Småland Med Öarna) | 117 | 122 | 135 | 138 | 121 | 148 | 165 | 172 | 174 | 167 | 182 | 207 | 223 |
| Vastsverige (Vastsverige) | 106 | 105 | 118 | 119 | 101 | 131 | 137 | 146 | 158 | 149 | 159 | 180 | 193 |

Monster Employment Index Sweden data for June will be released on July 14, 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. 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>.

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