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## Monster Employment Index Rises Sharply in August

### August 2009 Index Highlights:

- Index rises seven points, or 6 percent, the highest monthly rate of increase since August 2005
- Year-over-year decline eases to 24 percent, the most moderate pace of slowdown so far this year
- Retail, administrative and financial industries demonstrate solid growth
- Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media rise among occupations, whereas healthcare, community and personal care and services show softening demand
- New England leads all regions while Portland, OR sees the highest rise on the month amongst the metro markets

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index rose in August, seeing its highest monthly rate of improvement in four years, as a majority of industries, occupations, and regions registered increased online job availability following the slow summer hiring activity. The Index's annual rate of decline continued to moderate, indicating some signs of improvement in underlying demand for labor nationwide.

The Monster Employment Index is a monthly gauge of U.S. online job demand based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large representative selection of corporate career Web sites and job boards, including Monster®.

During August, online job availability rose in 15 of the Index's 20 industry sectors and 18 of the 23 occupational categories monitored. Index results for the past 13 months are as follows:

AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	APR 09	MAR 09	FEB 09	JAN 09	DEC 08	NOV 08	OCT 08	SEP 08	AUG 08
121	114	117	118	120	118	122	118	131	143	150	160	159

“The significant jump in the Monster Employment Index in August offers encouraging signs of improvement in the US economy with the demand for managers and professionals as well as sales and office workers picking up in time for the fall hiring season,” said Jesse Harriott, senior vice president and chief knowledge officer at Monster Worldwide. “The Index is now at its highest since February while showing the most moderate yearly rate of contraction since December 2008.”

### **Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, Retail Trade and Administrative/Support Industries Register Large Monthly Gains in August**

Online labor demand in the arts, entertainment and recreation industry registered a seven-point rise in August, rebounding from July's historic low. Demand for staff in sales and commerce related industries at large also edged higher with both retail trade and wholesale trade registering increased opportunities. Meanwhile, management of companies and enterprises reported a nine-point jump, reflecting a recent uptick in investor confidence.

Meanwhile, offerings in health care and social assistance declined for the second consecutive month. Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting registered the sharpest decline among industries in August but was the only sector to maintain last year's vacancy levels.

Public administration recorded only slightly lower demand than a year ago.

### **Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media Occupations Register Largest Monthly Increase in Online Demand in August**

Online demand for occupations related to arts, design, entertainment, sports and media increased, climbing to a six-month high, reflecting a positive trend in the creative sector as a whole. The Index also showed greater demand for workers in professional services with legal occupations exhibiting a strong recovery from July's decline. Online job availability for architecture, engineering and IT occupations edged higher as well while business and financial operations saw a 10-point rise. Online job demand for blue collar occupations also rose with transportation and material moving rising to its highest level in the year.

In contrast, opportunities for healthcare workers were broadly reduced in August with both healthcare support and healthcare practitioners and technical registering lower demand than a month ago.

On an annual basis, farming, fishing and forestry remains the only occupational category to exhibit annual growth.

### **Online Job Availability Increases in All Nine U.S. Census Bureau Regions in August**

Online job demand rose in all nine U.S. Census Bureau regions in August. New England reversed a three-month downtrend climbing 10 points due to a notable rise in demand in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont. South-Atlantic also reversed a three-month downtrend with West Virginia registering the highest rate of increase in recruitment activity among all states in the US.

Year-over-year, East South Central had the most moderate rate of decline closely followed by the South Atlantic region.

Adjusting the number of online help-wanted ads for total working population, the Monster Employment Index found the following states to be the top ten in terms of per-capita online job availability during the month of August:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>
1	Alaska
2	Montana
3	Maryland
4	Virginia
5	Massachusetts
6	Connecticut
7	Vermont
8	Delaware
9	Washington
10	Rhode Island

**Twenty Six of the Top 28 Major U.S. Metro Markets Register Increases in August**

During August, online recruitment activity increased in 26 major metro markets and remained flat in two of the 28 markets monitored by the Index. Portland experienced the strongest monthly gain due to an increase in demand for workers in management, IT, arts/design/entertainment and sales. Opportunities also expanded notably in Boston led by areas such as education/training/library, community/social services and military specific. Baltimore and Orlando were the only two markets to remain flat in August.

To obtain a full copy of the Monster Employment Index report for August 2009, and access current individual data charts for each of the 28 metro markets tracked, please visit <http://about-monster.com/employment-index>. Data for the month of September 2009 will be released on October 1, 2009.

### Top Industries Looking for Employees in August

Industries showing the greatest increase in online job availability in August included:

INDUSTRY	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	APR 09	AUG 08
Retail Trade	136	123	122	121	118	162
Management of Companies and Enterprises	113	104	106	105	107	145
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	44	37	38	40	42	94
Utilities	105	98	102	96	109	126
Accommodation and Food Services	107	101	102	111	113	138

### Most Wanted Occupational Experience in August

Occupational categories registering the largest increases in online job demand in August included:

OCCUPATIONS	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	APR 09	AUG 08
Office and Administrative Support	100	90	93	93	93	129
Business and Financial Operations	124	114	118	122	125	157
Management	137	127	129	129	131	192
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	86	77	77	75	75	105
Sales and Related	89	81	81	79	80	108

### Online Job Demand Increases across All Major U.S. Regions in August

Online job opportunities rose by varying degrees in all of the 9 U.S. Census Bureau Divisions in August. The regions are presented here in order of largest month-to-month rate of increase:

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	APR 09	AUG 08
West South Central	195	183	188	188	194	257
New England	112	102	106	106	109	154
West North Central	122	113	118	120	124	168
East South Central	128	121	124	123	128	153
Middle Atlantic	109	103	106	106	107	148

East North Central	106	100	103	103	105	147
Pacific	101	95	97	97	98	142
Mountain	123	118	121	121	123	162
South Atlantic	117	113	115	116	118	145



AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	JUL 09	AUG 09
159	160	150	143	131	118	122	118	120	118	117	114	121

By Region

	2009								2008				
	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug
New England	112	102	106	106	109	106	112	108	121	137	145	154	154
Mid-Atlantic	109	103	106	106	107	105	109	106	119	133	140	150	148
East North Central	106	100	103	103	105	103	108	104	115	131	139	148	147
West North Central	122	113	118	120	124	119	123	119	134	149	156	167	168
South Atlantic	117	113	115	116	118	116	117	113	123	134	139	145	145
East South Central	128	121	124	123	128	124	124	118	128	141	147	153	153
West South Central	195	183	188	188	194	191	199	191	214	235	242	258	257
Mountain	123	118	121	121	123	124	129	125	133	146	152	162	162
Pacific	101	95	97	97	98	96	101	101	112	125	133	142	142

By Industry

	2009								2008				
	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	192	200	226	224	247	246	221	205	181	170	168	178	192
Mining, Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	121	119	117	118	121	124	133	145	160	171	186	181	178
Utilities	105	98	102	96	109	110	118	94	131	120	134	134	126
Construction	164	164	166	168	170	170	173	170	177	186	197	202	203
Manufacturing	80	79	80	81	82	82	86	85	93	102	109	112	112
Wholesale Trade	124	123	124	124	125	123	126	123	128	141	148	151	155
Retail Trade	136	123	122	121	118	119	117	121	135	157	161	172	162
Transportation and Warehousing	128	126	125	129	138	127	129	123	146	163	173	178	178
Information	71	67	68	68	71	73	79	77	89	101	109	115	113
Finance and Insurance	47	44	48	55	57	57	64	63	74	91	101	108	107
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	56	57	61	50	53	53	56	47	59	67	76	85	86
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	49	48	51	52	54	56	62	60	72	87	99	105	105
Management of Companies and Enterprises	113	104	106	105	107	106	111	109	116	132	140	145	145
Administrative, Support, Waste Management, Remediation Services	54	49	50	50	51	49	54	51	60	73	82	88	85
Educational Services	87	83	87	84	80	77	78	74	89	95	98	104	113
Healthcare and Social Assistance	90	92	97	96	98	93	97	94	104	111	113	117	117
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	44	37	38	40	42	37	44	47	58	80	92	104	94
Accommodation and Food Services	107	101	102	111	113	104	99	98	108	126	129	139	138
Public Administration	182	182	191	201	197	200	216	207	178	200	213	210	192
Other Services	160	158	175	173	182	182	185	175	190	206	216	220	216

By Occupation

	2009								2008				
	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug
Management	137	127	129	129	131	131	137	137	152	172	183	192	192
Business and Financial Operations	124	114	118	122	125	120	126	118	131	145	151	158	157
Computer and Mathematical	86	84	87	87	89	90	96	95	111	126	139	146	145
Architecture and Engineering	75	73	78	83	86	91	97	93	108	127	139	147	146
Life, Physical, and Social Science	116	112	117	118	120	120	123	117	131	140	144	145	142
Community and Social Services	162	168	185	180	179	178	172	151	184	197	197	210	201
Legal	94	86	94	85	91	98	99	96	123	133	144	157	157
Education, Training, and Library	120	113	113	111	107	103	103	99	109	114	117	123	132
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	86	77	77	75	76	77	79	80	87	96	103	107	105
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	149	150	158	156	161	154	161	158	174	186	189	199	200
Healthcare Support	162	171	182	183	189	192	186	185	195	206	206	222	229
Protective Service	84	77	85	77	90	82	83	85	105	120	117	111	113
Food Preparation and Serving Related	122	118	125	127	124	120	119	121	130	150	149	155	157
Building, Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	108	107	116	113	110	104	105	102	115	132	139	150	151
Personal Care and Service	48	50	68	65	66	67	62	68	73	86	96	115	119
Sales and Related	89	81	81	79	80	77	80	77	85	97	100	109	108
Office and Administrative Support	100	90	93	93	93	90	94	91	105	120	125	132	129
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	187	185	188	187	210	210	188	169	161	156	153	164	179
Construction and Extraction	94	94	95	97	99	97	100	96	103	111	120	124	123
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	122	120	122	122	131	126	123	115	135	152	167	176	173
Production	101	99	100	99	99	98	102	100	108	119	127	131	130

Transportation and Material Moving	83	81	81	77	80	74	75	72	84	93	98	103	104
Military Specific	169	165	162	166	179	185	187	171	184	187	188	193	181

### By Local Market

	2009								2008				
	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug
Atlanta	74	69	71	70	70	69	72	72	81	97	106	112	111
Baltimore	46	46	47	46	47	47	53	52	62	69	74	77	75
Boston	65	57	59	58	59	59	66	64	79	93	107	112	112
Chicago	63	57	61	60	60	58	66	62	76	88	99	103	102
Cincinnati	61	54	58	61	66	64	72	67	86	112	118	126	118
Cleveland	73	69	70	71	72	71	80	75	89	112	118	121	120
Dallas	89	86	87	87	91	90	93	89	99	123	130	135	133
Denver	85	81	83	82	81	82	85	82	90	111	121	128	126
Detroit	64	60	62	63	67	63	70	65	80	101	110	119	116
Houston	106	103	105	107	108	110	117	108	124	149	149	162	157
Indianapolis	73	68	69	68	69	65	70	68	81	99	107	109	108
Kansas City	78	68	73	73	68	64	71	71	88	122	124	129	134
Los Angeles	57	54	55	55	55	56	60	58	67	74	81	85	85
Miami	63	61	60	61	62	60	64	62	68	79	87	89	87
Minneapolis	68	63	69	70	71	68	75	75	85	100	108	114	112
New York City	68	64	64	64	65	64	69	67	79	89	98	101	101
Orlando	41	41	43	42	41	38	39	37	48	59	57	60	61
Philadelphia	44	41	43	43	44	43	50	47	55	72	85	90	87
Phoenix	62	59	60	61	60	60	64	63	70	79	87	90	90
Pittsburgh	115	110	115	118	114	112	115	105	122	159	165	166	158

Portland	75	64	62	61	59	58	62	59	74	93	111	118	120
Sacramento	65	63	65	66	65	63	69	68	72	79	84	88	88
San Diego	68	65	66	67	66	65	68	66	74	82	89	94	95
San Francisco	62	60	61	60	59	59	64	63	70	79	89	94	95
Seattle	90	89	89	88	88	88	95	92	104	110	122	129	127
St. Louis	93	89	91	91	93	91	95	89	104	125	133	139	138
Tampa	66	64	66	67	67	65	67	65	74	83	83	87	88
Washington, D.C.	50	49	50	50	52	52	56	54	63	74	85	89	84

#### About the Monster Employment Index

Launched in April 2004 with data collected since October 2003, the Monster Employment Index is a broad and comprehensive monthly analysis of U.S. online job demand conducted by Monster Worldwide, Inc. Based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of online career outlets, including Monster, the Monster Employment Index presents a snapshot of employer online recruitment activity nationwide. 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%. To obtain a full copy of the Monster Employment Index report for June 2009, including all charts and tables, please visit <http://about-monster.com/employment-index>. Data for the month of September 2009 will be released on October 1, 2009.

#### 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](http://www.monster.com). More information about Monster Worldwide is available at <http://about-monster.com/>

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