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## Monster Employment Index Dips Slightly in September

### September 2009 Index Highlights:

- Index edges down two points in September indicating a modest decline in U.S. online recruitment activity
- Bucking the overall trend, hiring in mining and construction rises, while the manufacturing sector holds steady amid stabilizing demand for blue-collar occupations
- Opportunities in healthcare continue to moderate
- Boston sees the highest rise among metro markets

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index edged downward in September after a significant rise in late summer recruitment activity during August. Over the year, the Index fell 25 percent largely unchanged from last month's pace.

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.com®.

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

SEP 09	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	APR 09	MAR 09	FEB 09	JAN 09	DEC 08	NOV 08	OCT 08	SEP 08
119	121	114	117	118	120	118	122	118	131	143	150	160

“Despite recent improvements in economic sentiment, U.S. employers continue to exhibit caution when it comes to hiring” said Jesse Harriott, senior vice president and chief knowledge officer at Monster Worldwide. “On the upside, demand for workers is firming in the blue-collar segment, with welcome signs of revived activity in construction and manufacturing.”

### **Mining and Construction Rise, While Manufacturing Holds Steady in September**

Online labor demand in the mining, quarrying and oil/gas extraction industry increased in September, rising for the third consecutive month. Recent rises in energy and commodity prices may have contributed to accelerated hiring in the sector. Meanwhile, construction continued its steady rise, with a three-point increase in September, mirroring reports that the housing market has reached a bottom.

Online demand in the manufacturing and administrative/support and waste management industries remained stable in September, while arts, entertainment, and recreation registered the sharpest percentage decline on the month among industries, followed by public administration.

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting is the only industry category showing greater online job availability compared to a year ago.

### **Opportunities for Blue-Collar Occupations Rise; Healthcare Eases in September**

Online demand for blue-collar occupations rose in September with installation, repair and maintenance leading all categories. Construction and extraction and production also recorded expanded opportunities. Personal care and service was the only other category to edge upward in September though demand in this occupational category remains near historic lows with a year-over-year decline of 57 percent. Demand remained stable for most white-collar occupations with business and financial operations exhibiting a solid three-month trend.

In contrast, opportunities for healthcare workers were broadly reduced in September as both healthcare support and healthcare practitioners and technical registered lower demand than a month ago. Demand for military-specific occupations also declined, possibly due to reduced hiring by public and private defense employers. Declines were also noted for management and sales occupations, following upticks last month.

On an annual basis, farming, fishing and forestry remains the only occupational category to exhibit greater demand than a year ago.

### **Online Job Availability Decreases in Eight of Nine U.S. Census Bureau Regions in September**

Online job demand declined in all U.S. Census Bureau regions except East North Central in September. Hiring conditions were relatively stable in the Great Lakes states of Michigan and Wisconsin. In contrast, West South Central declined, erasing the upward movement from the previous month.

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 September:

Rank	State
1	Alaska
2	Montana
3	Massachusetts
4	Virginia
5	Maryland
6	Connecticut
7	Delaware
8	Rhode Island
9	Vermont
10	Nevada

**Eight of the Top 28 Major U.S. Metro Markets Register Increases in September**

During September, online recruitment activity increased in eight of the 28 major metro markets monitored by the Index. Boston saw the highest increase due to an upsurge in demand for workers in life, physical, and social sciences, legal and healthcare occupations. Cleveland saw a three-point rise that contributed to the rise in online demand for the East North Central region as a whole, mostly due to increased demand for white-collar categories like business/financial operations and IT. Both Portland and Kansas City declined but experienced expansion in lower-wage occupations like food preparation/serving and production.

To obtain a full copy of the Monster Employment Index report for September 2009, and to 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 October 2009 will be released on November 5, 2009.

### Top Industries Looking for Employees in September

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

INDUSTRY	SEP 09	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	SEP 08
Mining, Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	126	121	119	117	118	181
Construction	167	164	164	166	168	202
Other Services	163	160	158	175	173	220
Wholesale Trade	126	124	123	124	124	151

### Most Wanted Occupational Experience in September

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

OCCUPATIONS	SEP 09	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	SEP 08
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	126	122	120	122	122	176
Construction and Extraction	96	94	94	95	97	124
Personal Care and Service	49	48	50	68	65	115
Production	102	101	99	100	99	131

### Online Job Demand Trend Remains Negative in a Majority of U.S. Regions in September

Online job opportunities declined by varying degrees in eight of the 9 U.S. Census Bureau Divisions in September. The regions are presented here in order of smallest month-to-month rate of decrease:

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS	SEP 09	AUG 09	JUL 09	JUN 09	MAY 09	SEP 08
East North Central	106	106	100	103	103	148
Middle Atlantic	108	109	103	106	106	150
South Atlantic	116	117	113	115	116	145
New England	110	112	102	106	106	154
East South Central	126	128	121	124	123	153
Mountain	121	123	118	121	121	162

Pacific	99	101	95	97	97	142
West North Central	118	122	113	118	120	167
West South Central	188	195	183	188	188	258



SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	JUL 09	AUG 09	SEP 09
160	150	143	131	118	122	118	120	118	117	114	121	119

By Region

	2009									2008			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
New England	110	112	102	106	106	109	106	112	108	121	137	145	154
Mid-Atlantic	108	109	103	106	106	107	105	109	106	119	133	140	150
East North Central	106	106	100	103	103	105	103	108	104	115	131	139	148
West North Central	118	122	113	118	120	124	119	123	119	134	149	156	167
South Atlantic	116	117	113	115	116	118	116	117	113	123	134	139	145
East South Central	126	128	121	124	123	128	124	124	118	128	141	147	153
West South Central	188	195	183	188	188	194	191	199	191	214	235	242	258
Mountain	121	123	118	121	121	123	124	129	125	133	146	152	162
Pacific	99	101	95	97	97	98	96	101	101	112	125	133	142

By Industry

	2009									2008			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	188	192	200	226	224	247	246	221	205	181	170	168	178
Mining, Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	126	121	119	117	118	121	124	133	145	160	171	186	181
Utilities	102	105	98	102	96	109	110	118	94	131	120	134	134
Construction	167	164	164	166	168	170	170	173	170	177	186	197	202
Manufacturing	80	80	79	80	81	82	82	86	85	93	102	109	112
Wholesale Trade	126	124	123	124	124	125	123	126	123	128	141	148	151
Retail Trade	133	136	123	122	121	118	119	117	121	135	157	161	172
Transportation and Warehousing	128	128	126	125	129	138	127	129	123	146	163	173	178
Information	70	71	67	68	68	71	73	79	77	89	101	109	115
Finance and Insurance	47	47	44	48	55	57	57	64	63	74	91	101	108
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	54	56	57	61	50	53	53	56	47	59	67	76	85
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	49	49	48	51	52	54	56	62	60	72	87	99	105
Management of Companies and Enterprises	107	113	104	106	105	107	106	111	109	116	132	140	145
Administrative, Support, Waste Management, Remediation Services	54	54	49	50	50	51	49	54	51	60	73	82	88
Educational Services	83	87	83	87	84	80	77	78	74	89	95	98	104
Healthcare and Social Assistance	88	90	92	97	96	98	93	97	94	104	111	113	117
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	39	44	37	38	40	42	37	44	47	58	80	92	104
Accommodation and Food Services	102	107	101	102	111	113	104	99	98	108	126	129	139
Public Administration	172	182	182	191	201	197	200	216	207	178	200	213	210
Other Services	163	160	158	175	173	182	182	185	175	190	206	216	220

By Occupation

	2009									2008			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Management	131	137	127	129	129	131	131	137	137	152	172	183	192
Business and Financial Operations	124	124	114	118	122	125	120	126	118	131	145	151	158
Computer and Mathematical	86	86	84	87	87	89	90	96	95	111	126	139	146
Architecture and Engineering	75	75	73	78	83	86	91	97	93	108	127	139	147
Life, Physical, and Social Science	112	116	112	117	118	120	120	123	117	131	140	144	145
Community and Social Services	161	162	168	185	180	179	178	172	151	184	197	197	210
Legal	94	94	86	94	85	91	98	99	96	123	133	144	157
Education, Training, and Library	114	120	113	113	111	107	103	103	99	109	114	117	123
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	80	86	77	77	75	76	77	79	80	87	96	103	107
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	145	149	150	158	156	161	154	161	158	174	186	189	199
Healthcare Support	159	162	171	182	183	189	192	186	185	195	206	206	222
Protective Service	83	84	77	85	77	90	82	83	85	105	120	117	111
Food Preparation and Serving Related	120	122	118	125	127	124	120	119	121	130	150	149	155
Building, Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	107	108	107	116	113	110	104	105	102	115	132	139	150
Personal Care and Service	49	48	50	68	65	66	67	62	68	73	86	96	115
Sales and Related	86	89	81	81	79	80	77	80	77	85	97	100	109
Office and Administrative Support	99	100	90	93	93	93	90	94	91	105	120	125	132
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	186	187	185	188	187	210	210	188	169	161	156	153	164
Construction and Extraction	96	94	94	95	97	99	97	100	96	103	111	120	124
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	126	122	120	122	122	131	126	123	115	135	152	167	176
Production	102	101	99	100	99	99	98	102	100	108	119	127	131
Transportation and Material Moving	83	83	81	81	77	80	74	75	72	84	93	98	103

Military Specific	152	169	165	162	166	179	185	187	171	184	187	188	193
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### By Local Market

	2009									2008			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Atlanta	75	74	69	71	70	70	69	72	72	81	97	106	112
Baltimore	45	46	46	47	46	47	47	53	52	62	69	74	77
Boston	68	65	57	59	58	59	59	66	64	79	93	107	112
Chicago	63	63	57	61	60	60	58	66	62	76	88	99	103
Cincinnati	60	61	54	58	61	66	64	72	67	86	112	118	126
Cleveland	76	73	69	70	71	72	71	80	75	89	112	118	121
Dallas	88	89	86	87	87	91	90	93	89	99	123	130	135
Denver	84	85	81	83	82	81	82	85	82	90	111	121	128
Detroit	63	64	60	62	63	67	63	70	65	80	101	110	119
Houston	105	106	103	105	107	108	110	117	108	124	149	149	162
Indianapolis	72	73	68	69	68	69	65	70	68	81	99	107	109
Kansas City	73	78	68	73	73	68	64	71	71	88	122	124	129
Los Angeles	57	57	54	55	55	55	56	60	58	67	74	81	85
Miami	64	63	61	60	61	62	60	64	62	68	79	87	89
Minneapolis	70	68	63	69	70	71	68	75	75	85	100	108	114
New York City	68	68	64	64	64	65	64	69	67	79	89	98	101
Orlando	40	41	41	43	42	41	38	39	37	48	59	57	60
Philadelphia	44	44	41	43	43	44	43	50	47	55	72	85	90
Phoenix	62	62	59	60	61	60	60	64	63	70	79	87	90
Pittsburgh	115	115	110	115	118	114	112	115	105	122	159	165	166
Portland	71	75	64	62	61	59	58	62	59	74	93	111	118
Sacramento	64	65	63	65	66	65	63	69	68	72	79	84	88

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

### 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 October 2009 will be released on November 5, 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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