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Monster Employment Index Rises in May, Reflecting Increased U.S. Online Recruitment Activity

May 2006 Index Highlights:

- Index rises four points to 167 in May, following slight dip in April, suggesting reinvigorated online hiring activity
- Online demand for accommodation and food services; agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; and utilities workers surges as summer approaches
- Online job availability for production occupations increases, providing positive sign for blue collar workers
- Online hiring efforts for construction workers dips, following an all-time high in April
- Nationwide online recruitment remains strong, as 25 states show higher online job availability

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index rose in May, reflecting continued growth in online recruitment activity and related job opportunities in the U.S. The Index grew by four points to 167 in May, following a one-point dip in the previous month. Year over year, the overall Index is up 33 points, or 25 percent, indicating strong growth in online hiring across most of the country.

The Index rose by varying degrees in several key industries and occupations, as well as four of nine U.S. Census divisions in May. Several industries showed higher levels of online demand due to seasonality as summer approached, including accommodation and food services; agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; and utilities. Meanwhile, a number of occupational categories rounded out three- to seven-month growth trends, including production; personal care and service; computer and mathematical (IT); and community and social services.



The Index's overall results for the past 13 months are as follows:

MAY 06	APR 06	MAR 06	FEB 06	JAN 06	DEC 05	NOV 05	OCT 05	SEP 05	AUG 05	JUL 05	JUN 05	MAY 05
167	163	164	157	151	145	149	143	140	142	134	136	134

Online Demand for Workers in Accommodation and Food Services Industry Spikes Due to Seasonality

Online job availability for workers rose in 12 of 20 industries during May, with the accommodation and food services industry showing a particularly notable rise in online demand for workers, continuing a solid six-month growth trend. This is potentially due to a number of factors, including seasonal hiring at the onset of summer.

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting also jumped markedly higher, likely due to warmer summer weather approaching, and continued a mostly-upward five-month growth trend. The utilities industry also saw a spike in online recruitment activity, likely driven by a seasonal hiring push for workers, and arts, entertainment, and recreation rose for the fourth consecutive month.

Additionally, the Other Services category registered a large increase in online demand during May. This category comprises establishments engaged in providing services that fall outside of the other Index categories, such as equipment and machinery repairing, promoting or administering religious activities, grant-making, advocacy, dry-cleaning and laundry services, death care services, pet care services, photofinishing services, temporary parking services, and dating services.

In contrast, online recruitment activity for workers in the construction industry retracted from its highest point to date in April, but remained at an elevated level. Other industries that showed a decline in overall online demand for workers during May include transportation and warehousing; wholesale trade; and information.

“The May findings of the Monster Employment Index further extend the overall mostly upward growth trend in online job demand seen through the first five months of 2006. This is particularly encouraging news for college graduates, many of whom began entering the working world last month,” said Steve Pogorzelski, Group President, International at Monster Worldwide. “Despite slight declines and flatness in certain industries and occupational categories, online job recruitment activity in May across the U.S. was strong, pushing the Index to its highest level to date.”



Online Opportunities for Production Workers Rise in May, Suggesting Improved Hiring Climate in Goods-Producing Sector

Online job availability for workers rose in 10 of 23 occupational categories in May, with demand for production workers showing a significant spike during the month, indicating stepped up hiring of workers in the goods-producing sector. This follows months of other positive indicators suggesting strong growth in manufacturing.

Online recruitment activity for personal care and service workers also surged last month to extend a solid seven-month upward growth trend; and demand for community and social services workers rose for the third consecutive month, suggesting solid growth in the nation's public sector. Additionally, online job availability for computer and mathematical (IT) workers edged higher during the month, as hiring activity for IT professionals remained robust and companies across all sectors continued to invest in technology.

Online demand for a variety of business and professional services occupations, however, edged lower during May, including legal; management; business and financial operations; and architecture and engineering.

Online Recruitment in West South Central Region Jumps in May, Driven by Continued Post-Hurricane Reconstruction Efforts

Once again, the West South Central region registered the strongest growth in online job availability last month due to continued hiring to fill reconstruction needs in the Gulf Coast area. Overall, 25 U.S. states showed greater online demand for employees in May, with Nebraska, Montana, North Dakota and Arkansas among those registering the sharpest gains.

Based on online job demand in relation to total working population, the Monster Employment Index found the following states to be the top ten in terms of online job availability during the month of May:

1	Delaware
2	Arizona
3	Connecticut
4	California
5	Maryland
6	New Jersey
7	Alaska
8	Massachusetts
9	Florida
10	Wyoming



California continued to offer the most online job availability of any state based on sheer quantity alone.

Top Five Industries Looking for Employees in May

Industries showing the greatest rate of increase in online job availability in May included:

INDUSTRY	MAY 06	APR 06	MAR 06	FEB 06	JAN 06	MAY 05
Other Services	213	194	194	195	198	186
Accommodation and Food Services	172	157	148	140	133	128
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	196	186	186	178	171	160
Utilities	150	141	134	138	132	128
Management of Companies and Enterprises	145	137	122	129	118	128

Most Wanted Occupational Experience in May

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

OCCUPATIONS	MAY 06	APR 06	MAR 06	FEB 06	JAN 06	MAY 05
Personal Care and Service	191	172	167	157	145	115
Community and Social Services	188	176	162	154	154	122
Other	128	125	112	113	112	116
Production	146	143	143	141	136	130
Life, Physical, and Social Science	148	145	145	144	135	126

Online Job Demand Increases in Four of Nine U.S. Regions in May

Online job demand increased in four of nine U.S. Census Bureau regions in May. The regions are presented here in order of greatest month-to-month increase:

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS	MAY 06	APR 06	MAR 06	FEB 06	JAN 06	MAY 05
West South Central	206	197	194	181	176	144
West North Central	170	165	160	151	148	137
Mountain	181	179	172	165	160	139
New England	161	160	156	147	145	132
East North Central	151	152	149	142	139	129
East South Central	156	156	152	147	143	132
Pacific	170	173	179	169	167	140
Mid-Atlantic	160	162	155	149	146	135
South Atlantic	162	165	162	155	151	134



MAY 05	JUN 05	JUL 05	AUG 05	SEP 05	OCT 05	NOV 05	DEC 05	JAN 06	FEB 06	MAR 06	APR 06	MAY 06
134	136	134	142	140	143	149	145	151	157	164	163	167

By Region

	2006					2005							
	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May
New England	161	160	156	147	145	139	143	139	134	137	131	134	132
Mid-Atlantic	160	162	155	149	146	140	145	142	136	140	131	135	135
East North Central	151	152	149	142	139	134	138	135	132	134	128	129	129
West North Central	170	165	160	151	148	142	147	150	144	146	138	136	137
South Atlantic	162	165	162	155	151	143	146	146	143	143	134	135	134
East South Central	156	156	152	147	143	139	144	141	134	136	130	131	132
West South Central	206	197	194	181	176	163	165	149	142	150	142	145	144
Mountain	181	179	172	165	160	154	157	153	150	150	140	141	139
Pacific	170	173	179	169	167	155	159	153	149	150	140	140	140

By Industry

	2006					2005							
	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	196	186	186	178	171	170	176	175	173	167	154	160	160
Mining	169	169	168	167	159	158	155	160	155	148	141	141	140
Utilities	150	141	134	138	132	136	135	126	132	131	135	129	128
Construction	211	218	198	193	179	186	191	186	179	161	156	144	138
Manufacturing	124	124	122	123	123	120	125	128	125	130	131	133	136
Wholesale Trade	149	152	155	147	136	150	150	147	146	147	137	135	134
Retail Trade	172	169	162	160	150	150	147	143	140	132	134	132	129
Transportation and Warehousing	124	131	131	130	124	121	116	115	125	122	117	118	114
Information	132	134	131	130	124	124	124	124	123	120	117	119	115
Finance and Insurance	148	145	143	140	137	136	138	137	141	143	142	144	133
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	134	131	129	125	115	121	123	125	124	122	118	119	119
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	139	137	135	133	126	133	134	129	127	129	125	126	122
Management of Companies and Enterprises	145	137	122	129	118	122	123	133	138	132	128	128	128
Administrative, Support, Waste Management, Remediation	102	102	102	99	97	96	98	104	102	104	103	106	105
Educational Services	118	117	115	114	113	111	104	114	114	114	113	113	113
Healthcare and Social Assistance	127	126	126	124	123	122	121	121	125	125	123	124	124
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	174	166	157	153	145	148	147	149	145	145	145	147	140
Accommodation and Food Services	172	157	148	140	133	129	121	126	130	129	123	125	128
Public Administration	128	134	127	118	108	107	108	105	110	103	101	100	102
Other Services	213	194	194	195	198	181	192	198	196	201	189	190	186

By Occupation

	2006					2005							
	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May
Management	182	185	177	176	164	158	164	159	155	156	148	149	149
Business and Financial Operations	195	198	194	179	179	165	167	164	161	159	147	149	149
Computer and Mathematical	168	166	166	159	157	144	147	139	132	134	130	128	136
Architecture and Engineering	183	186	190	188	179	174	180	162	155	154	145	143	142
Life, Physical, and Social Science	148	145	145	144	135	130	134	136	129	129	124	125	126
Community and Social Services	188	176	162	154	154	145	153	148	142	141	133	130	122
Legal	192	196	185	171	169	145	151	147	147	151	136	141	148
Education, Training, and Library	135	134	129	125	122	120	126	125	124	135	125	123	125
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media	135	137	140	128	133	123	126	124	117	121	116	122	120
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	134	136	132	129	127	125	125	121	122	126	123	127	121
Healthcare Support	149	149	144	135	134	135	130	131	122	126	122	126	123
Protective Service	145	146	132	122	124	112	114	118	115	117	110	113	109
Food Preparation and Serving	156	154	145	134	131	133	141	137	136	139	131	136	136
Building, Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	160	158	152	138	127	125	138	135	135	138	134	137	139
Personal Care and Service	191	172	167	157	145	115	107	103	106	102	97	99	115
Sales and Related	144	145	143	136	135	131	133	128	125	124	119	121	122
Office and Administrative Support	165	166	169	158	157	143	147	146	142	142	130	132	134
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	129	128	119	110	104	98	104	106	110	115	114	115	115
Construction and Extraction	148	150	144	142	136	130	140	137	139	144	135	137	135
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	162	163	158	157	151	141	148	153	146	147	137	136	135
Production	146	143	143	141	136	130	136	141	130	135	129	130	130
Transportation and Material Moving	131	130	129	126	124	123	126	128	125	126	120	120	113
Military Specific	152	152	176	165	178	154	156	171	151	161	148	135	132
Other	128	125	112	113	112	107	114	122	123	129	110	112	116



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. (NASDAQ: MNST), the parent company of the leading global online careers and recruitment resource, Monster®. Based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from more than 1,500 Web sites, including a variety of corporate career sites, job boards and Monster, the Monster Employment Index presents a snapshot of employer online recruitment activity nationwide. All of the data and findings in the Monster Employment Index have been validated for their accuracy through independent, third party auditing conducted on a monthly basis by ARC Research. The audit validates the accuracy of the online job recruitment activity measured within a margin of error of +/- 1.05%.

About Monster Worldwide

Founded in 1967, Monster Worldwide, Inc. is the parent company of Monster®, the leading global online careers and recruitment resource. The company also owns TMP Worldwide, one of the largest Recruitment Advertising agencies in North America. Headquartered in New York with approximately 4,300 employees in 25 countries, Monster Worldwide (NASDAQ: MNST) is a member of the S&P 500 Index and the NASDAQ 100. More information about Monster Worldwide is available at www.monsterworldwide.com.

About Monster

Monster® is the leading global online careers and recruitment resource. A division of Monster Worldwide, Monster works for everyone by connecting quality job seekers at all levels with leading employers across all industries. Founded in 1994 and headquartered in Maynard, Mass., Monster has 26 local language and content sites in 24 countries worldwide. More information is available at www.monster.com or by calling 1-800-MONSTER. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading employer products and services, please visit <http://recruiter.monster.com>.

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