



## EMPLOYMENT I N D E X

### **Monster Employment Index Netherlands Rises in September, Showing Continued Momentum and Positive Year-on-year Trend**

**— Higher Demand for Workers Registered in Production, Manufacturing, Maintenance and Repair; and Public Sector, Defence and Community Sectors —**

**— Blue Collar Occupations See Greater Online Job Availability for Second Consecutive Month —**

**— Demand in Zuid and West/Randstad Regions Rises to Highest Levels to-date —**

**AMSTERDAM, October 10, 2006** – Online recruitment activity and related employment opportunities across the Netherlands rose steadily in September, demonstrating continued momentum since the beginning of the year. The Monster Employment Index Netherlands rose by three points last month to a level of 163 – its highest point since the inception of the Index. The Index is now showing year-on-year growth of 58 points, or roughly 55 percent.

The Index measured sharp rises in online job availability in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair; and public, defence and community sectors, as well as strong rises in the banking finance and insurance; construction and extraction; education, training and library; and sales sectors. Meanwhile, the IT sector saw a slight decline in demand, mainly due to fewer opportunities for technicians and associate professionals; and professionals in this sector.

In September, blue collar workers saw greater online job availability for a second successive month, with elementary workers seeing the strongest increase. Most of the other occupations tracked also showed solid gains with the exception of clerks, which remained unchanged.

The Zuid and West/Randstad regions registered their highest levels of online job demand to-date in September, both reaching historical highs since the inception of the Index.

Monster Employment Index Netherlands results over the past 14 months are as follows:

Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05
163	160	154	159	155	148	136	126	116	119	113	111	105	105

“Conditions in the industry remain positive this month, with the Index showing continued upward momentum in online recruitment activity and demand for workers. At the same time, the Netherlands’ GDP for the second quarter was up by 2.4 percent over last year,” said Marc de Vries, Managing Director of Monsterboard.nl. “The Netherlands is showing a sustained period of economic growth and it’s highly encouraging to see that as a result of this, businesses are expanding and focusing on garnering new talent to build up their operations. This backs up the promising forecast on Prinsjesdag, which predicts continued growth going into next year.”

**Demand for Workers Surges in Production, Manufacturing, Maintenance & Repair; and Public Sector, Defence and Community Sectors**

Online job demand in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair; and public, defence and community sectors surged in September, while the Index also measured strong rises in the banking finance and insurance; construction and extraction; education, training and library; and sales sectors.

The public, defence and community sector registered a nine-point rise in online demand for workers, driven by more opportunities for legislators, senior officials and managers; and clerks. Meanwhile, Midden/Oost registered the highest regional increase in opportunities for workers in this sector. Similarly, the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector also recorded a nine-point gain, following five months of little to no activity. In fact, the sector showed greater demand for workers across all categories and regions last month.

The banking, finance and insurance sector also edged upward, driven by a spike in job postings for professionals, while the construction and extraction sector showed continued strength, following a strong spike in August. Demand was even more pronounced in September as a result of increased opportunities for craft and elementary workers.

Solid rises in online recruitment activity within the education, training and library; and sales sectors reversed the declines seen in August, indicating a return to the general upward trend seen in these sectors since the beginning of the year.

The only core economic sector showing a decline was the IT sector, which fell as a result of fewer opportunities for technicians and associate professionals; and professionals.

Industry	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05

Accounting, Audit, Taxes	144	141	127	144	139	132	134	126	119	122	117	114	107	88
Administrative, Organization	188	188	183	177	175	160	150	135	120	119	111	109	103	96
Agriculture, Fishing and Forestry	112	104	96	121	129	129	112	97	92	88	90	89	94	101
Banking, finance, insurance	166	159	151	160	155	145	106	98	91	98	90	90	98	106
Construction and Extraction	179	173	145	183	180	179	151	136	124	131	116	108	108	103
Education, Training and Library	164	159	161	158	142	136	126	114	109	110	113	107	106	88
Engineering	153	151	150	150	145	140	134	127	119	123	117	115	106	90
Hospitality and Tourism	192	192	182	172	165	146	135	116	106	111	104	102	99	93
HR	162	153	151	159	147	136	131	124	115	117	115	102	101	91
IT	141	143	133	146	151	146	134	125	114	115	110	114	106	91
Legal	124	123	122	129	128	121	119	112	110	115	104	104	101	92
Management and Consulting	142	136	137	141	139	133	129	123	118	122	117	117	106	92
Marketing, PR and Media	140	144	157	151	163	144	143	137	107	108	111	108	99	96
Production, Manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair	166	157	157	159	153	153	131	123	113	116	112	109	106	102
Public Sector, Defense, Community	171	162	153	143	146	148	126	121	114	116	112	104	99	98
Research and Development	164	181	175	164	162	186	153	123	122	134	119	114	105	100
Sales	158	153	158	154	150	142	132	124	111	115	111	109	106	89
Telecommunication	117	112	107	105	107	112	103	101	102	102	103	110	101	118
Transport, Post and Logistics	207	208	189	177	163	148	135	124	119	119	120	110	101	101

### **Blue Collar Occupations Register Highest Rate of Growth for Second Straight Month**

In September, blue collar workers saw greater increases in employer demand than white collar workers for a second consecutive month. Elementary workers saw the strongest surge in offers, with most other occupations also showing higher demand with the exception of clerks, which held steady.

A second month of double-digit growth for elementary workers came as a result of higher demand in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair; and construction and extraction sectors. Year-on-year growth for the elementary category now stands at 133 points.

Following two months of decline, a 12-point surge in demand for craft and related workers pushed the category to its highest level to date. Online opportunities for workers in production, manufacturing, maintenance, and repair occupations; and construction and extraction positions also increased, with the Noord and Zuid regions seeing significant gains.

Legislators, senior officials and managers saw a rise of five points, with demand returning to its pre-summer level as a result of stepped-up recruitment for workers in management and consulting; and sales.

Moderate rises were measured in all other occupational categories, with the exception of clerks, which showed no change. The clerks category has either risen or held steady over the past twelve months, showing year-over-year growth of 95 points.

Occupation	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05
Legislators, senior officials and managers	144	139	140	144	142	135	127	120	116	120	118	116	103	101
Professionals	157	155	148	156	153	147	137	128	118	122	114	112	105	104
Technicians and associate professionals	156	153	147	155	150	140	134	123	112	116	112	108	104	105
Clerks	196	196	188	179	179	164	149	133	118	117	109	107	101	107
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	201	198	195	180	184	163	140	123	106	117	109	113	100	104
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	109	101	97	118	125	126	112	98	92	88	90	89	94	100
Craft and related workers	170	158	160	167	162	163	134	121	110	111	107	105	105	105
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	166	164	153	155	146	143	130	121	115	122	118	114	106	102
Elementary occupations	241	227	201	220	187	164	133	119	94	107	102	127	108	96

### **Online Job Availability in Zuid and West/Randstad Regions Rises to Highest Levels to Date**

The Zuid and West/Randstad regions registered their highest levels of online job demand to date in September, both reaching historical highs since the inception of the Index. Midden/Oost also increased moderately, while there was a slight drop in activity in the Noord region.

An increase of six points in the Zuid region followed three months of little or no activity, and was mainly due to more opportunities for blue collar workers. The Noord-Brabant sub-region showed the only change within the Zuid, registering a second consecutive month of growth, while other sub-regions showed no change.

West/Randstad registered a rise of three points, having increased or remained constant since the beginning of the year. The rise in September was driven by higher demand for workers in the Zuid-Holland sub-region. Blue collar occupations such as skilled agricultural and fishery workers registered the biggest gains last month, while white collar jobs saw little or no rise.

Increased demand for all types of workers contributed to an increase of two points in Midden/Oost, while a slight drop in demand for workers in the Noord was a result of lower demand in the Freisland sub-region.

Region	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05
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<b>Noord</b> (Drenthe, Friesland, Groningen)	156	157	156	156	151	145	129	118	110	115	111	109	107	107
<b>Midden/Oost</b> (Flevoland, Gelderland, Overijssel)	164	162	163	163	158	166	140	127	118	122	115	110	103	103
<b>West/Randstad</b> (Noord-Holland, Utrecht, Zuid-Holland)	159	156	154	154	152	139	135	126	115	118	113	111	105	105
<b>Zuid</b> (Limburg, Noord-Brabant, Zeeland)	165	159	160	160	154	151	134	124	115	119	114	110	103	104

**Monster Employment Index Europe Dips in September, Driven by Reduced Online Recruitment Activity in Germany and UK**

The Monster Employment Index Europe dipped in September, edging down two points to a level of 124, as slightly reduced online recruitment activity in Germany and the UK offset solid gains in France and the Netherlands, and a significant surge in Sweden. Year-on-year growth in online job availability across Europe according to the Index now stands at 17 points or 16 percent.

Following rises across all five countries in August, the Index showed a general decrease across several key economic sectors last month. The education, training and library sector registered the sharpest rate of decline, falling 12 points, while the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair; IT; and sales sectors also registered fewer job postings. A drop in the transport, post and logistics sector was largely due to a decline in the German market, following a recent boom.

In September, most occupational categories registered declines in online recruitment activity, with a sharp drop reported for service, shop and market sales workers. The only category that showed increased opportunities was skilled agricultural workers, with France exhibiting the strongest monthly rate of growth.

Monster Employment Index Europe results for the past 14 months are as follows:

Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05
124	126	125	121	116	116	117	116	106	112	111	112	107	106

Findings for the five countries tracked by the Monster Employment Index Europe for the past 14 months are as follows:

Country	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05	Nov 05	Oct 05	Sep 05	Aug 05
France	128	124	146	126	119	123	118	122	107	112	110	111	91	99
Germany	119	121	119	115	115	112	113	109	106	109	111	112	111	108
Netherlands	163	160	154	159	155	148	136	126	116	119	113	111	105	105
Sweden	123	112	116	129	117	119	117	111	116	109	101	100	97	86
United Kingdom	125	128	123	125	108	115	120	128	101	118	108	108	100	102

### **About The Monster Employment Index Netherlands**

The Monster Employment Index Netherlands provides a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand in the Netherlands and is compiled by Monster Worldwide, parent company of Monster®, the leading global online careers and recruitment resource. The Index is independently audited by ARC Research, a U.S.-based market research company, to ensure the accuracy of the data within a margin of error of +/- 1.05%. The U.S. version of the Monster Employment Index was first introduced in April 2004.

Additional information on the Monster Employment Index Netherlands is available online at <http://euindex.monsterworldwide.com>. Visitors can subscribe to receive the monthly Dutch Index report as well as the broader Monster Employment Index Europe report in German, English, French, or Swedish. Monster Employment Index Netherlands data for October will be released on November 14, 2006.

### **About Monster Worldwide**

Founded in 1967, Monster Worldwide, Inc. is the parent company of Monster®, the leading global online careers property. Headquartered in New York with approximately 4,200 employees in 36 countries, Monster Worldwide (NASDAQ: MNST) is a member of the S&P 500 Index and NASDAQ-100. More information about Monster Worldwide is available at [www.monsterworldwide.com](http://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 34 local language and content sites in 32 countries worldwide. More information is available at [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com) or by calling 1-800-MONSTER. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading employer products and services, please visit <http://info.monster.com>.

Special Note: Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Except for historical information contained herein, the statements made in this release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding Monster Worldwide, Inc.'s strategic direction, prospects and future results. Certain factors, including factors outside of Monster Worldwide's control, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements, including economic and other conditions in the markets in which Monster Worldwide operates, risks associated with acquisitions, competition, seasonality and the other risks discussed in Monster Worldwide's Form 10-K and other filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which discussions are incorporated in this release by reference.

#### CONTACT:

Marc de Vries  
Monsterboard.nl, Netherlands  
+31 (0)20 851 11 11  
[pers@monsterboard.nl](mailto:pers@monsterboard.nl)



SEP 05	OCT 05	NOV 05	DEC 05	JAN 06	FEB 06	MAR 06	APR 06	MAY 06	JUN 06	JUL 06	AUG 06	SEP 06
105	111	113	119	116	126	136	148	155	159	154	160	163