



CONTACTS:  
Kathryn Burns  
Monster Worldwide  
(212) 351-7063  
[kathryn.burns@monsterworldwide.com](mailto:kathryn.burns@monsterworldwide.com)

Christian Harper  
Weber Shandwick  
(212) 445-8135  
[charper@webershandwick.com](mailto:charper@webershandwick.com)

Lauren McDonald  
Weber Shandwick  
(617) 520-7116  
[lmcdonald@webershandwick.com](mailto:lmcdonald@webershandwick.com)

## Monster Employment Index Holds Steady in September, Demonstrating Little Change in Online Recruitment Activity

### September 2007 Index Highlights:

- Although down from its peak reading in May, the Index continues to show greater online job availability than a year ago, indicating relatively robust employer demand for workers
- Online opportunities in the retail and whole trade industries, and for sales and related occupations, edge higher in September, however year-over-year growth remains modest
- Construction and manufacturing industries see moderate rise in online job opportunities, while most blue-collar occupations also see expanded opportunities
- Index shows fewer online job offers in finance and insurance industry, and business and financial operations, likely reflecting recent turmoil in the financial sector
- Demand for education and skilled healthcare professionals continues to climb amid sustained worker shortages
- West North Central region registers largest increase in online job demand for the second consecutive month, while opportunities in New England and Pacific regions ease slightly

### Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index was flat in September, following a modest rise in August, suggesting relatively cautious online recruitment activity during the final month of the third quarter. The Monster Employment Index is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from more than 1,500 different Web sites, including Monster®.

Many of the industries and occupations tracked were little changed last month, with gains in some categories offset by declines in others. The Index's annual growth rate also held steady at eight percent, as overall online job availability remained 14 points higher than a year ago. Overall, 11 of 20 industries and nine of 23 occupational categories tracked by the Index registered increased online job availability last month. Index results for the past 13 months are as follows:

SEP 07	AUG 07	JUL 07	JUN 07	MAY 07	APR 07	MAR 07	FEB 07	JAN 07	DEC 06	NOV 06	OCT 06	SEP 06
186	186	183	186	189	186	185	177	168	167	175	172	172

“With payrolls declining for the first time in four years in August, signs of upward pressure on the unemployment rate and a slowing worker turnover rate, U.S. online recruitment appears to have leveled off somewhat over the past three months,” said Steve Pogorzelski, Executive Vice President, Global Sales and Customer Development at Monster Worldwide. “While online opportunities for white-collar occupations in general, and the financial sector in particular, eased further in September, the Index has yet to show any dramatic adverse impact on demand for workers in the broader service sector as a result of the sub-prime mortgage fallout.”

**Arts, Entertainment and Recreation; Transportation and Warehousing; and Construction Industries Register Highest Rate of Increase in Online Job Availability in September**

Among industries, online job opportunities for arts, entertainment and recreation registered the sharpest increase between August and September, jumping eight percent, followed closely by transportation and warehousing, which rose six percent. Online recruitment activity also increased over the month for industries in the goods producing sectors, with both construction and manufacturing edging up three percent. Both the wholesale and retail trade industries saw online opportunities expand again in September, with wholesale trade edging up two percent and retail trade rising three percent. In fact, wholesale trade rose to a historical high of 172 and is now up eight percent on a year-over-year basis.

In contrast, real estate and rental and leasing posted the largest decrease in online job offerings in September, falling five percent. Other industries that showed fewer opportunities last month include management of companies and enterprises; and finance and insurance, which both dipped one percent. Five industry categories remained unchanged on the month.

On a year-over-year basis, transportation and warehousing remained the top growth industry, followed closely by utilities and public administration.

**Legal; Education, Training and Library; and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations Register Sharpest Monthly Increases**

Online job availability increased the most for legal occupations in September, as the category rose three percent, with education, training and library following close behind after edging up two percent. Several blue-collar occupational categories also registered gains on the month, including transportation and material moving; and construction and extraction, which both added two percent. Online opportunities for sales and related positions also expanded, climbing two percent in September.



While the protective service category posted the sharpest decline in online job demand last month, dropping three percent, food preparation and serving also dipped, easing one percent and continuing a three-month downward trend. Meanwhile, online recruitment for several white-collar categories such as management, and business and financial operations, also contracted during September, while several technical categories such as computer and mathematical (IT); architecture and engineering; and life, physical, and social science were unchanged.

Year-over-year, healthcare support remains the Index's top growth category, while military specific has registered the steepest decline.

#### **Four of Nine U.S. Census Bureau Regions Show Increased Online Job Availability in September**

Just four of the nine U.S. Census Bureau regions tracked by the Index saw online job availability expand in September. The West North Central region registered the sharpest gain, edging up two percent on greater demand for workers in education, healthcare, sales and construction. Meanwhile, the Pacific region posted the largest monthly decline, shedding one percent. On a year-over-year basis, the West South Central is the Index's top growth region, while the Mountain region continues to show the smallest gain.

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, New Mexico registered the highest rate of increase during September, while California and Massachusetts saw the biggest drops. Year-over-year, Texas remains the Index's top growth state while Alaska and Arizona have dipped the most.

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:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>
1	Delaware
2	Massachusetts
3	Connecticut
4	Arizona
5	New Jersey
6	California
7	Maryland
8	Colorado
9	Illinois
10	Washington

### Top Five Industries Looking for Employees in September

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

INDUSTRY	SEP 07	AUG 07	JUL 07	JUN 07	MAY 07	SEP 06
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	173	161	153	153	155	179
Transportation and Warehousing	209	198	190	198	191	151
Construction	228	222	214	219	232	211
Retail Trade	185	180	187	188	194	178
Manufacturing	130	126	126	132	134	126

### Most Wanted Occupational Experience in September

Occupational categories registering most significant increases in online job demand in September included:

OCCUPATIONS	SEP 07	AUG 07	JUL 07	JUN 07	MAY 07	SEP 06
Legal	217	211	216	224	245	192
Education, Training, and Library	168	164	157	164	161	144
Transportation and Material Moving	135	132	131	132	134	135
Sales and Related	150	147	145	147	151	148
Construction and Extraction	153	150	146	149	153	156

### Online Job Demand Increases in Four of the Nine Major U.S. Regions in September

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

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS	SEP 07	AUG 07	JUL 07	JUN 07	MAY 07	SEP 06
West North Central	194	191	185	189	191	177
East North Central	171	169	166	167	169	160
West South Central	268	266	260	260	262	218
East South Central	169	168	164	167	169	166
Mountain	195	195	189	191	194	193



Mid-Atlantic	180	180	177	179	181	162
South Atlantic	172	172	170	173	176	165
New England	187	188	188	188	188	168
Pacific	183	184	183	187	195	179



SEP 06	OCT 06	NOV 06	DEC 06	JAN 06	FEB 07	MAR 07	APR 07	MAY 07	JUN 07	JUL 07	AUG 07	SEP 07
172	172	175	167	168	177	185	186	189	186	183	186	186

## By Region

	2007									2006			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
New England	187	188	188	188	188	181	172	167	158	163	173	170	168
Mid-Atlantic	180	180	177	179	181	178	172	165	156	159	167	164	162
East North Central	171	169	166	167	169	168	163	158	149	155	161	160	160
West North Central	194	191	185	189	191	189	182	174	165	171	180	178	177
South Atlantic	172	172	170	173	176	175	171	165	158	163	168	168	165
East South Central	169	168	164	167	169	169	165	158	147	151	159	157	166
West South Central	268	266	260	260	262	256	247	232	214	216	223	222	218
Mountain	195	195	189	191	194	195	188	177	172	180	188	191	193
Pacific	183	184	183	187	195	201	196	182	168	170	181	179	179

## By Industry

	2007									2006			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	171	171	173	171	164	150	143	141	136	128	141	148	156
Mining	168	166	167	169	175	189	191	193	189	194	199	203	199
Utilities	172	172	172	175	178	194	183	182	167	159	159	156	142
Construction	228	222	214	219	232	245	236	236	230	224	225	218	211
Manufacturing	130	126	126	132	134	135	134	133	128	127	128	128	126
Wholesale Trade	172	168	163	164	165	159	147	148	144	141	144	146	159
Retail Trade	185	180	187	188	194	192	190	185	179	177	174	179	178
Transportation and Warehousing	209	198	190	198	191	186	178	164	149	138	151	141	151
Information	142	142	136	136	140	131	130	122	122	122	125	127	130
Finance and Insurance	153	154	148	146	140	135	136	138	134	141	146	149	148
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	138	145	149	148	150	142	136	127	125	123	116	124	125
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	153	153	151	154	160	161	159	152	148	152	150	149	146
Management of Companies and Enterprises	156	158	161	152	157	161	159	157	147	135	137	143	143
Administrative, Support, Waste Management, Remediation	120	119	112	111	109	105	106	104	101	100	102	107	107
Educational Services	133	130	130	135	134	131	121	120	119	120	121	122	121
Healthcare and Social Assistance	124	121	120	120	122	120	119	119	115	115	118	119	121
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	173	161	153	153	155	162	173	167	165	167	165	165	179
Accommodation and Food Services	170	169	169	170	177	172	169	162	160	154	166	170	174
Public Administration	155	155	161	159	156	153	150	145	140	139	136	132	135
Other Services	217	220	218	226	231	230	228	214	206	215	207	209	220

## By Occupation

	2007									2006			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Management	194	197	192	191	194	201	189	186	174	180	186	184	181
Business and Financial Operations	206	208	208	207	215	217	213	207	194	197	205	200	205
Computer and Mathematical	181	181	179	182	184	189	181	175	166	170	185	185	178
Architecture and Engineering	198	198	194	195	194	202	196	190	179	182	187	181	179
Life, Physical, and Social Science	168	168	168	169	170	171	167	168	156	158	167	160	158
Community and Social Services	218	218	209	209	215	210	214	215	204	202	200	193	185
Legal	217	211	216	224	245	245	243	209	182	168	179	182	192
Education, Training, and Library	168	164	157	164	161	159	151	146	133	137	139	137	144
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	157	157	160	165	165	161	160	155	148	146	149	151	145
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	182	179	178	181	174	169	168	143	135	139	145	146	144
Healthcare Support	209	213	209	209	197	184	175	147	144	152	159	162	164
Protective Service	174	179	180	176	174	170	171	170	159	154	172	163	165
Food Preparation and Serving Related	178	180	185	193	189	203	181	168	163	158	162	163	164
Building, Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	155	158	153	155	161	164	154	142	128	136	150	149	159
Personal Care and Service	170	173	168	170	189	236	195	183	160	165	164	168	164
Sales and Related	150	147	145	147	151	151	151	150	147	151	153	151	148
Office and Administrative Support	174	175	168	172	181	184	179	171	157	162	174	171	169
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	142	142	142	143	148	148	142	126	109	109	109	113	120
Construction and Extraction	153	150	146	149	153	154	146	142	132	138	149	149	156
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	183	182	176	178	184	184	176	172	159	161	172	187	179
Production	153	150	147	149	151	151	148	144	134	140	148	148	151
Transportation and Material Moving	135	132	131	132	134	135	131	124	120	126	130	132	136
Military Specific	170	167	165	163	163	160	166	175	191	203	214	205	184



### **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 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 Research America, Inc. The audit validates the accuracy of the online job recruitment activity measured within a margin of error of +/- 1.05%.

### **About Monster Worldwide**

Monster Worldwide, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNST), parent company of Monster®, the premier global online employment solution for more than a decade, strives to bring people together to advance 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 and the NASDAQ 100. 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 [www.monsterworldwide.com](http://www.monsterworldwide.com).

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