



## Monster Employment Index Sweden Drops in January, as Online Recruitment Activity Slows for First Time in Six Months

— Demand in Public Sector, Defence and Community Rises;  
while all Other Sectors Decline —

— Blue- and White-collar Occupations see Similar Rates of  
Decline in January —

**STOCKHOLM, February 13, 2007** – Online job recruitment activity and related employment opportunities across Sweden declined in January after a period of steady increase seen at the end of 2006. The Index dropped nine points to 136 last month. Despite the decrease, the Index is still showing a significant year-on-year growth of 20 points.

Almost all industry sectors tracked by the Index exhibited decreases of varying degrees in online job availability, with the exception of the public, defence and community sector seeing an increase. The construction and extraction sector registered the smallest decline in January.

Demand for both blue- and white-collar workers saw similar slowdown in recruitment activity in January after rises in the second half of last year. The steepest decline was reported in the legislators, senior officials and managers category.

All regions tracked by the Index registered decreases, with Ostra Mellansverige showing the strongest rate of decline for the month.

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

Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
136	145	138	131	123	112	116	129	117	119	117	111	116	109

“The Swedish economy continues to grow and there is still a positive outlook concerning employment in 2007. The dip of the Index in Sweden in January is consistent

with the rest of Europe, and it will be interesting to follow the development of the Index in the months to come,” said Henrik Ramstedt, Marketing director, Monster Scandinavia.

**Majority of Industry Sectors Register Decreases of Varying Degrees in January**

Most industry sectors tracked by the Index showed decreased online job demand during January.

The production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair sector saw a considerable drop in January. Decreases were registered in all categories with the exception of craft and related workers where demand increased for the eighth consecutive month. The sharpest drop was seen in the professionals category. Ostra Melansverige observed the steepest decline, while Vastsverige saw only a minor decrease. Despite the fall, this sector has seen a year-on-year growth of 40 points.

The number of online opportunities for workers in the transport, post and logistics sector also saw a dramatic decline in hiring last month, falling 22 points after a similar sized increase in December. The fall- in demand was seen across all categories, especially technicians, associate professionals and clerks. The year-on-year gain for this sector is now 25 points.

Online job availability in the sales sector declined for the second consecutive month following a strong increase in November. Demand declined across all categories with the exception of elementary occupations. Opportunities for clerks fell for the third consecutive month. The sharpest decrease was seen in the professionals category.

The public, defence and community sector saw the sharpest rate of growth in online job opportunities, rising 21 points after a relatively flat period. The rise was mostly due to stronger demand for professionals, while other categories registered a decline in demand. Opportunities grew across all regions. Year-on-year growth for the sector now stands at three points.

“The decline in the sales sector is to be expected after a seasonal spike in online job opportunities building up to the Christmas season. It follows that there will be a drop-off in these types of job offers at this time of year,” commented Ramstedt.

Industry	Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
Accounting, Audit, Taxes	154	147	165	159	138	122	129	132	123	137	132	131	118	111
Administrative, Organization	165	172	161	159	143	127	134	144	130	135	142	124	146	109
Agriculture, Fishing and Forestry	110	108	100	104	107	104	103	99	111	125	125	124	112	101
Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Leisure	111	111	108	110	111	111	111	109	108	120	121	106	107	109
Banking, finance, insurance	209	220	195	188	144	139	140	161	141	134	133	130	152	125

Construction and Extraction	147	157	157	154	139	122	124	132	126	126	124	113	112	107
Education, Training and Library	93	103	96	91	91	96	102	110	102	93	87	88	93	100
Engineering	256	267	226	218	181	168	161	161	151	168	136	134	132	124
Healthcare, Social work	116	126	122	114	112	105	105	113	115	126	136	115	108	103
Hospitality and Tourism	103	105	109	112	123	104	97	108	110	120	111	98	98	88
IT	239	243	248	239	186	169	185	196	165	166	155	149	149	128
Management and Consulting	199	221	217	204	179	150	149	187	153	173	175	162	127	123
Marketing, PR and Media	87	84	81	79	80	79	78	113	107	107	113	113	101	104
Production, Manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair	158	173	148	149	142	120	121	127	116	115	108	104	118	102
Public Sector, Defense, Community	119	98	98	94	94	91	93	95	94	92	99	98	116	124
Research and Development	156	163	144	132	120	139	134	137	126	137	149	127	132	123
Sales	169	182	191	176	175	129	133	147	128	135	134	124	126	109
Telecommunication	226	228	213	180	162	156	136	151	147	147	151	127	129	126
Transport, Post and Logistics	142	164	139	136	134	123	133	138	121	125	119	115	117	104

### **All Nine Occupational Categories Register Declines in January**

After four months of strong increase in the legislators, senior officials and managers category, January registered a sharp decline in labour demand. The significant 27-point decrease was mainly due to a pull-back in hiring in the management and consulting sector. Demand dropped across all regions, especially Sydsverige Med Oarna and Vastsverige. Year-on-year growth is 58-points.

Opportunities for plant and machine operators and assemblers dropped by 10 points in January, following a rise of the same number during December 2006. This was mostly driven by a decrease in online job opportunities in the construction and extraction sector.

The professionals category declined eight points in January. The biggest drop in demand was seen in the education, training and library; production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sectors. In contrast, demand in marketing, PR and media increased for the third consecutive month. Year-on-year growth in this category is 23-points.

Craft and related workers saw a decline in employment opportunities after four months of increases in hiring. The number of online offers in the construction and extraction sector fell for a second month, while increases were seen in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector for the eighth consecutive month. Demand declined across all regions with the exception of Sydsverige Med Oarna.

Occupation	Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
Legislators, senior officials and managers	202	229	221	209	177	146	147	186	147	160	157	147	144	123
Professionals	132	140	131	123	114	110	116	127	117	117	114	106	109	109
Technicians and associate professionals	133	145	138	127	121	110	113	133	119	119	120	115	127	111
Clerks	114	121	116	113	107	99	103	128	121	123	124	121	116	106
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	140	145	146	144	154	128	125	107	106	113	110	101	101	92
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	104	105	98	100	108	101	101	96	101	108	109	111	109	98
Craft and related workers	144	147	144	140	129	118	119	124	117	120	111	105	110	101
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	157	167	157	165	154	131	137	146	129	128	120	113	113	105
Elementary occupations	119	124	123	131	131	105	106	115	114	115	117	105	113	95

### **All Swedish Regions See Declines in Online Recruitment Activity during January**

All four Swedish regions tracked by the Index saw fewer online job opportunities in January, with Ostra Mellansverige registering the steepest decline. In this region, demand for all occupational categories decreased. The highest decline was observed in the plant and machine operators and assemblers category. While the public and telecommunications sectors saw increases, the sharpest decline was seen in the education, training and library sector. The year-on-year growth of the Index is 34 points.

Sydsverige Med Oarna saw a decrease of 12 points in January, with the steepest drop reported in Smaland Med Oarna sub-region. The drop in demand was almost entirely seen for white-collar occupations; while demand for blue-collar occupations only dropped for service, shop and market sales workers. Year-on-year growth in this region is 32 points.

In Vastsverige online job opportunities dropped eight points, yet remains at one of its highest levels. All categories saw declines in online recruitment activity. The highest decline was registered for legislators, senior officials and managers; elementary occupations; education training and library; and transport, post and logistics. In contrast, increases were seen in banking, finance, insurance; and hospitality and tourism. The yearly growth of the Index is 16 points.

Region	Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
<b>Norra Sverige</b> (Norra Mellansverige, Mellersta Norland, Ovre Norland)	120	130	120	119	116	117	107	120	108	112	111	96	107	101
<b>Ostra Mellansverige</b> (Ostra Mellansverige, Stockholms)	150	165	155	143	134	116	127	140	121	122	118	110	116	105
<b>Sydsverige Med Oarna</b>	146	158	146	140	128	107	119	136	122	125	123	113	114	103

(Sydsverige, Smaland Med Oarna)														
<b>Vastsverige (Vastsverige)</b>	<b>127</b>	135	129	119	107	99	101	117	113	114	112	106	111	105

**Monster Employment Index Europe Declines in January, Reflecting Seasonal Slowdown in Online Recruitment Activity**

The Monster Employment Index Europe declined in January, reflecting a similar seasonal pause in online recruitment activity seen at the same time last year. The Index dipped four points to a level of 122 – a smaller margin than the six-point drop in January 2006. Sharply reduced online job availability in France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK helped drive the Index down last month, while Germany registered a minor dip of just one point. Year-on-year, the Index is up 10 points, demonstrating solid growth over the past 12 months.

Most key sectors saw strong declines in January, with banking, finance and insurance showing the sharpest decrease. The only major sector that registered an increase in demand for workers was public, defence and community, which edged up mainly as a result of greater activity in France and Sweden.

Most occupational categories saw declines of varying degrees in January, with the exception of service shop and market sales workers, which do not normally see a peak at this time of year.

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

Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
122	126	125	126	124	126	125	121	116	116	117	116	106	112

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

Country	Jan 07	Dec 06	Nov 06	Oct 06	Sep 06	Aug 06	Jul 06	Jun 06	May 06	Apr 06	Mar 06	Feb 06	Jan 06	Dec 05
France	122	140	134	136	128	124	146	126	119	123	118	122	107	112
Germany	117	118	118	119	119	121	119	115	115	112	113	109	106	109
Netherlands	171	180	173	167	163	160	154	159	155	148	136	126	116	119
Sweden	136	145	138	131	123	112	116	129	117	119	117	111	116	109
United Kingdom	121	129	128	127	125	128	123	125	108	115	120	128	101	118

**About The Monster Employment Index Sweden**

The Monster Employment Index Sweden provides a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand in Sweden and is compiled by Monster Worldwide, the parent company of the leading global online careers and recruitment resource,

Monster®. 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 Sweden is available online at <http://euindex.monsterworldwide.com>. Visitors can subscribe to receive the monthly Sweden Index report as well as the broader Monster Employment Index Europe report in Swedish, English, French or German. Monster Employment Index Sweden data for January will be released on 13 March, 2007.

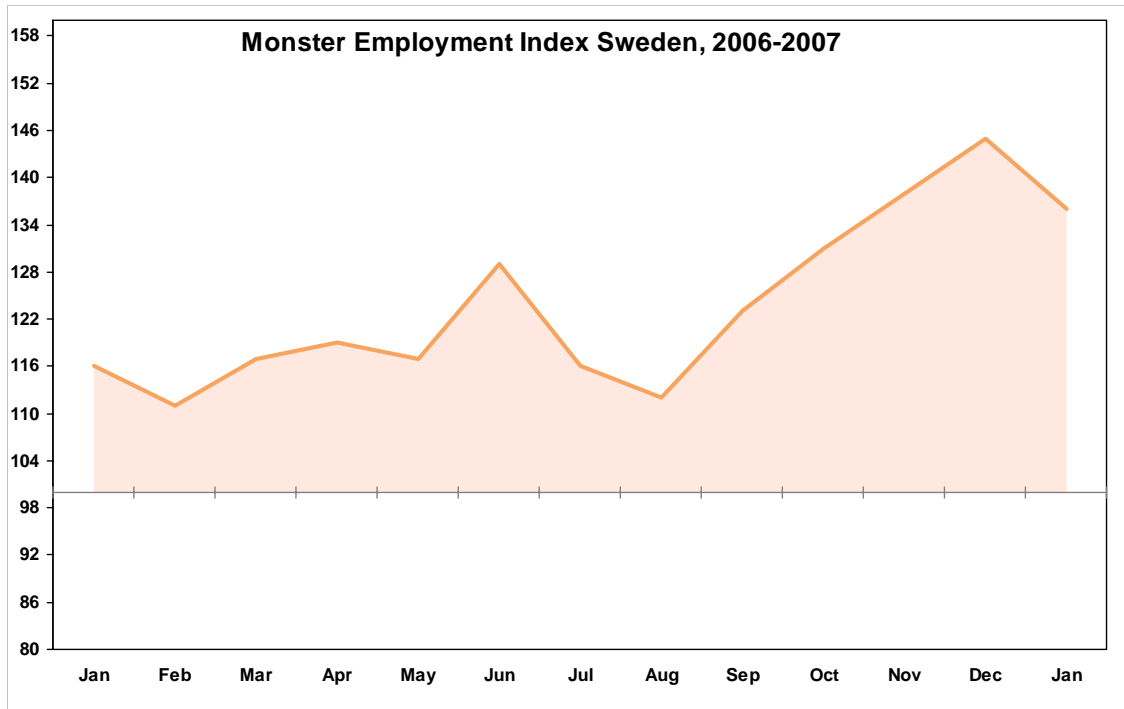
#### **About Monster Worldwide**

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JAN 06	FEB 06	MAR 06	APR 06	MAY 06	JUN 06	JUL 06	AUG 06	SEP 06	OCT 06	NOV 06	DEC 06	JAN 07
116	111	117	119	117	129	116	112	123	131	138	145	136