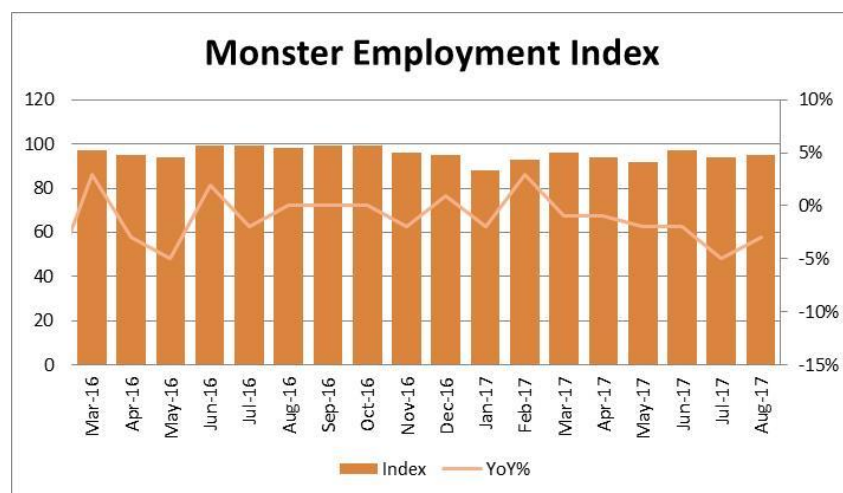


## Weak online hiring sentiment in August casts a gloomy shadow over Singapore's job market

- Singapore saw a **3% year-on-year decline** in online hiring activity in August 2017, according to the latest *Monster Employment Index (MEI)*
- The **BFSI** sector saw the highest growth in online hiring activity at **10% year-on-year**, while the **Government/ PSU/ Defence** sector reported the most decline at **-11% year-on-year**
- **Health Care** jobs saw the most demand at **9% year-on-year**
- Roles in **Customer Service** registered the sharpest annual decline at **-13%**



**SINGAPORE, 24 October 2017** – Online hiring in Singapore took another plunge, reporting a 3% year-on-year decline between August 2016 and August 2017.

This is according to the latest [Monster Employment Index \(MEI\)](#), a gauge of online job posting activities compiled monthly by [Monster.com](#). The Index also records the industries and occupations that show the highest and lowest growth in recruitment activity locally.

This August, the BFSI sector led online hiring in Singapore for the third consecutive month, reporting a 10% year-on-year growth.

On the other hand, the Government/ PSU/ Defence sector continued to see the sharpest year-on-year decline amongst all other sectors at -11%.

When looking at the occupational groups monitored by the Index, Health Care professionals, were most in demand amongst employers, reporting a strong 9% year-on-year growth in hiring activity.

Demand for Customer Service professionals saw the sharpest drop in online hiring, reporting a 13% year-on-year decline.

“According to the latest MAS survey, economists expect the economy to accelerate growth to 3.1 per cent in the third quarter, but slowing sharply to 1.8 per cent towards the end of the year. And despite strong steps by the government, we are unlikely to see a drastic improvement in Singapore's labour market which will remain soft in the short-term”, said **Sanjay Modi, Managing Director, Monster.com – APAC and Middle East.**

“The ongoing business restructuring, talent shortage, skills mismatch and shifts in the labour force within Singapore are some of the hurdles facing the jobs market. However, in line with our MEI, the healthcare sector in Singapore is growing rapidly due to an ageing population, consequently leading to a demand for medical professionals is growing. Having said that, the dip in work permit holders is making it tougher for employers hiring talent with niche skills, who are working with tight budgets and need to maintain a constant watch on their headcount.”

The Monster Employment Index Singapore is a monthly gauge of online job posting activity, based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large representative selection of career websites and online job listings across Singapore. The Index does not reflect the trend of any one advertiser or source, but is an aggregate measure of the change in job listings across the industry.

**Monster Employment Index Singapore results for the past 18 months are as follows:**

Mar 16	Apr 16	May 16	Jun 16	Jul 16	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Y-O-Y
97	95	94	99	99	98	99	99	96	95	88	93	96	94	92	97	94	95	-3%

**Top Growth Industries**

Year-over-year Growth	Aug 16	Aug 17	% Growth Y-o-Y
BFSI	110	121	10%
Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment	103	107	4%
Health Care	110	114	4%
IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES	129	133	3%
Education	98	101	3%

**Lowest Growth Industries**

Year-over-year Growth	Aug 16	Aug 17	% Growth Y-o-Y
Shipping/Marine	95	92	-3%
Retail/Trade and Logistics	117	110	-6%
Hospitality	120	112	-7%
Consumer Goods/ FMCG, Food & Packaged Food , Home Appliance, Garments/ Textiles/ Leather, Gems & Jewellery	93	86	-8%
Government/ PSU/ Defence	87	77	-11%

**Top Growth Occupations**

Year-over-year Growth	Aug 16	Aug 17	% Growth Y-o-Y
Health Care	112	122	9%
Engineering /Production	91	93	2%
Marketing & Communications	78	79	1%
Software, Hardware, Telecom	117	117	0%
Legal	101	100	-1%

**Lowest Growth Occupations**

Year-over-year Growth	Aug 16	Aug 17	% Growth Y-o-Y
HR & Admin	92	85	-8%
Sales & Business Development	103	95	-8%
Finance & Accounts	90	81	-10%
Hospitality & Travel	112	98	-13%
Customer Service	119	104	-13%

## By Industry

	2016					2017							
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES</b>	129	130	133	131	127	117	124	129	127	128	137	133	133
<b>BFSI</b>	110	111	113	107	106	102	114	118	117	118	127	122	121
<b>Health Care</b>	110	112	113	112	110	107	111	111	110	110	113	113	114
<b>Hospitality</b>	120	118	119	115	114	111	111	114	110	109	110	109	112
<b>Government/ PSU/ Defence</b>	87	88	86	86	84	79	81	81	79	78	79	79	77
<b>Education</b>	98	99	103	101	105	100	103	105	101	99	105	98	101
<b>Retail/Trade and Logistics</b>	117	115	115	111	107	99	104	109	107	105	111	108	110
<b>Engineering, Construction and Real Estate</b>	92	93	93	89	87	83	87	90	91	90	93	89	92
<b>Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary</b>	95	95	95	92	93	89	94	97	94	93	97	96	96
<b>Consumer Goods/ FMCG, Food &amp; Packaged Food , Home Appliance, Garments/ Textiles/ Leather, Gems &amp; Jewellery</b>	93	95	95	92	95	87	89	90	88	87	88	86	86
<b>Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment</b>	103	103	102	99	97	89	96	99	98	97	102	100	107
<b>Shipping/Marine</b>	95	94	95	95	95	94	94	94	94	94	93	93	92
<b>Import/Export</b>	83	84	84	84	84	83	84	84	83	83	83	83	83
<b>Oil and Gas</b>	91	91	91	90	90	89	91	91	91	91	91	91	90

## By Occupation

	2016					2017							
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>Software, Hardware, Telecom</b>	117	119	124	123	116	103	113	125	117	115	127	119	117
<b>Finance &amp; Accounts</b>	90	90	93	87	83	77	86	88	86	83	89	83	81
<b>Sales &amp; Business Development</b>	103	103	103	99	97	89	93	98	95	93	97	94	95
<b>Customer Service</b>	119	119	121	117	116	107	108	108	106	104	107	106	104
<b>Marketing &amp; Communications</b>	78	78	78	77	76	74	76	79	76	76	78	77	79
<b>HR &amp; Admin</b>	92	92	92	90	88	82	86	88	85	82	86	85	85
<b>Engineering /Production</b>	91	93	92	88	87	82	87	92	90	89	94	92	93
<b>Hospitality &amp; Travel</b>	112	112	108	103	103	95	96	98	94	91	96	95	98
<b>Health Care</b>	112	115	115	114	110	107	111	110	109	108	113	118	122
<b>Legal</b>	101	104	101	97	97	96	99	99	101	100	99	98	100
<b>Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply Chain</b>	96	95	95	93	91	87	91	93	91	90	93	93	94
<b>Real Estate</b>	92	105	105	96	90	84	95	93	95	90	92	88	90

**About the Monster Employment Index**

Launched in May 2014 with data collected since January 2011, the Monster Employment Index is a broad and comprehensive monthly analysis of online job posting activity in Singapore conducted by Monster Singapore. Based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of online career outlets, including Monster Singapore, the Monster Employment Index presents a snapshot of employer online recruitment activity nationwide. Monster has taken due care in compiling and processing the data available from various sources for Monster Employment Index, but does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions or action / decision taken or for the results obtained from the use of such information.

**About Monster Worldwide**

Monster Worldwide, Inc., 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/>

**For further queries, please contact:**

**Priyanka Sharma Kaintura**

Head – PR (India, Middle East, Southeast Asia)

Monster.com

Priyanka.Sharma@monsterindia.com

**Richa Shah**

Mutant Communications

rebecca@mutant.com.sg

(+65) 8265 6850

**Priscillia Chun**

Mutant Communications

Priscillia@mutant.com.sg

(+65) 9336 8308