

Malaysia's E-Recruitment Plunges in Q2, Sees 11% Decline in May

- Malaysia witnessed a **6%** and **11% year-on-year decline** in online recruitment activity in April and May 2018 respectively, according to the latest Monster Employment Index (MEI)
- The **Oil & Gas** sector reported the steepest growth in online hiring activity at **14% year-on-year** in May 2018 while the **Retail** industry registers the sharpest decline at **41% year-on-year**.
- Professionals in **Hospitality & Travel** saw the highest growth among job roles, with **31% year-on-year**.
- **Customer Service** talents were the least in demand at **-37% year-on-year**.



KUALA LUMPUR, 19 July 2018 – Malaysia's overall online hiring activity plummeted during the start of the second quarter, reporting a 6% and 12% year-on-year (y-o-y) decline in April and May 2018 respectively, according to the latest Monster Employment Index (MEI). Only two of the nine industries monitored by the MEI saw positive annual growth in both months.

The **Oil & Gas** sector has continually registered double-digit growth since April 2017, and is again up 11% y-o-y in April and 14% y-o-y in May 2018. However, in the short-term, the sector witnessed recessive growth, down 2% month-on-month (m-o-m) and 4% on a 3-month basis.

The only other industry that ranked among the top growth industries for the second consecutive month was the **IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES** sector, which was up 8% y-o-y in April and recorded marginal growth of 1% y-o-y in May.

The **Retail** industry continued to fare the worst amongst all job sectors in the last 3 months, down 41% y-o-y in May, followed by the **BFSI** sector at -30%.

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

The weak sentiment in April and May is also reflected in the job-roles monitored – only one

out of the nine occupations monitored by the MEI saw positive annual growth.

The demand for **Hospitality & Travel** roles surged 31% y-o-y in May, recovering from a two month decline. This was also the most notable growth in the series. On a short-term basis, the job role also exhibited the steepest growth: up 21% m-o-m, 18% (3-month) and 12% (6-month).

Customer Service roles on the other hand, remained the worst performing occupational group, reporting a sharp decline of 37% y-o-y in May.

Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply Chain professionals also witnessed an 11% y-o-y decline in May, the steepest annual decline since October 2016.

“Online hiring activity in Malaysia exhibited a relative slowdown in the run-up to the 2018 general election due to political and economic uncertainty, prompting investors and businesses to be more cautious,” said **Abhijeet Mukherjee, CEO of Monster.com – APAC and Middle East.**

“The Oil and Gas industry continues to lead in positive annual growth as analysts project a better outlook for both upstream and downstream players in the sector. The tech industry is also not slowing down in Malaysia, with the digital transformation’s impact on the economy expected to significantly increase by RM400bil by 2025. More initiatives have been introduced to help businesses adapt to emerging digital technologies, and this is also reflected in the declining demand for more traditional roles such as customer service with businesses revamping their operating models.”

The [Monster Employment Index](#) Malaysia 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 Malaysia. 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 Malaysia results for the past 18 months are as follows:

Dec 16	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Y-o-Y
61	61	54	65	65	62	67	62	65	65	66	61	62	60	60	58	61	55	-11%

Top Growth Industries

Year-over-year Growth	May 17	May 18	% Growth Y-o-Y
Oil and Gas	78	89	14%
IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES	87	88	1%
Hospitality	55	54	-2%
Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary	94	90	-4%

Lowest Growth Industries

Year-over-year Growth	May 17	May 18	% Growth Y-o-Y
Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment	63	53	-16%
Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine	67	53	-21%
BFSI	82	57	-30%
Retail	59	35	-41%

Top Growth Occupations

Year-over-year Growth	May 17	May 18	% Growth Y-o-Y
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Lowest Growth Occupations

Year-over-year Growth	May 17	May 18	% Growth Y-o-Y
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Hospitality & Travel	35	46	31%
Software, Hardware, Telecom	50	48	-4%
Engineering /Production, Real Estate	68	65	-4%
Marketing & Communications	81	75	-7%

Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply Chain	71	63	-11%
Finance & Accounts	74	62	-16%
Sales & Business Development	84	70	-17%
Customer Service	27	17	-37%

By Industry

	2017								2018				
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES	87	100	92	92	95	99	93	100	96	97	84	94	88
Engineering, Construction and Real Estate	69	69	64	67	67	69	63	63	65	66	63	68	62
BFSI	82	85	75	78	75	76	69	69	66	68	66	70	57
Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary	94	93	89	91	92	92	91	90	89	90	87	90	90
Oil and Gas	78	87	83	87	86	87	89	91	91	93	94	91	89
Hospitality	55	58	60	64	64	62	65	61	63	65	64	58	54
Retail	59	64	54	54	52	50	42	43	41	41	38	43	35
Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine	67	76	66	72	63	72	65	60	67	68	67	69	53
Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment	63	67	61	63	62	62	59	60	57	57	56	59	53

By Occupation

	2017								2018				
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Software, Hardware, Telecom	50	65	56	59	60	69	65	70	61	61	50	58	48
Finance & Accounts	74	79	73	75	73	74	69	70	68	69	68	71	62
Sales & Business Development	84	91	84	87	88	88	82	84	76	76	72	76	70
Customer Service	27	30	27	24	22	24	18	21	24	24	19	21	17
Marketing & Communications	81	83	80	81	82	82	80	81	77	77	77	79	75
HR & Admin	62	66	62	64	61	62	59	57	58	58	59	62	57
Engineering /Production, Real Estate	68	73	68	71	71	73	67	68	69	70	68	70	65
Hospitality & Travel	35	42	43	39	45	46	41	36	37	39	45	38	46
Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply	71	78	73	77	72	76	70	70	73	73	72	74	63

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