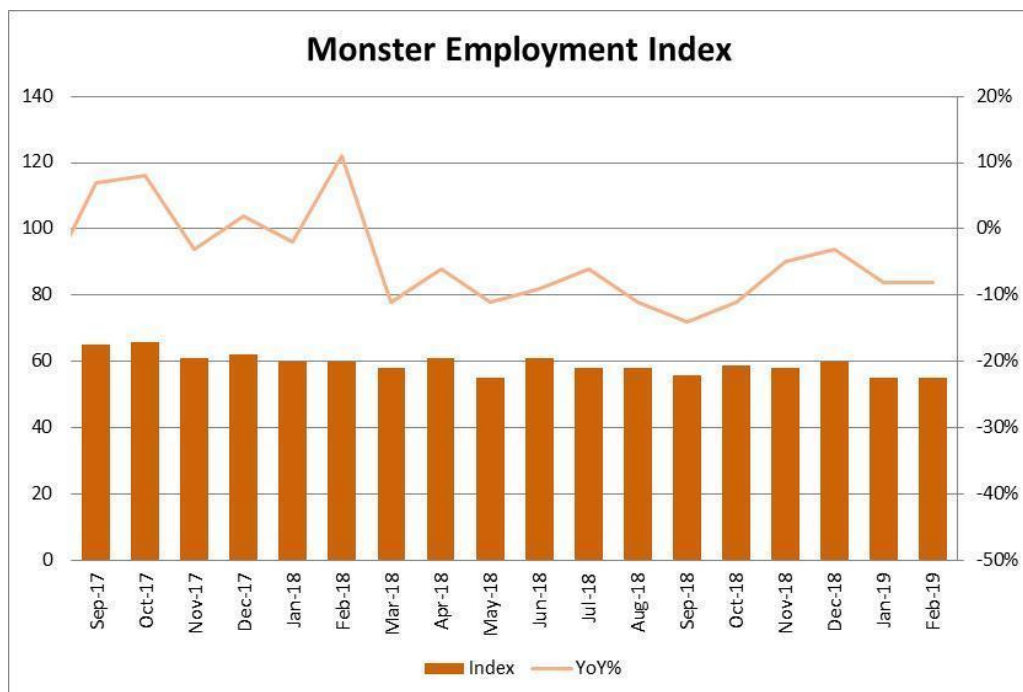


Malaysia's Online Hiring Off To A Sluggish Start in 2019

- Malaysia registers an **8% year-on-year decline** in online hiring activity in both **January** and **February 2019**, according to the latest Monster Employment Index (MEI).
- The **Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine** industry saw the steepest decline among all sectors, down **-21% year-on-year** in **February**.
- **IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES** records the most-notable annual growth among industry sectors, **up 23% in January** and **25% in February**.
- **Software, Hardware, Telecom** is the only job-role to witness positive annual growth in February, **up 5%** whilst **Customer Service** job roles were the least in demand at **-38%**.



KUALA LUMPUR, 28 MARCH 2019 – Malaysia's online hiring activity continues its downward slide in Q1 2019, registering another decline of -8% in both January and February 2019. This marks the country's twelfth consecutive month of online hiring decline, according to the Monster Employment Index (MEI).

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

The **Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine** industry saw the steepest annual decline among all sectors, down 21% year-on-year in February, followed by the **Retail** sector at -20%.

The **IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES** witnessed the steepest year-on-year growth among industry sectors, recording yet another double-digit growth of 25% in February.

The **Oil & Gas** sector also charted 11% growth year-on-year and continues to rank among the top growth industries since April 2017.

Among occupation categories, only one out of the nine job roles monitored by the MEI exhibited an increased demand on an annual basis.

In correlation with the increased hiring activity in the IT industry, **Software, Hardware, Telecom** job roles witnessed positive annual growth of 5% in February. This was also the highest year-on-year growth since March 2018. In the short-term, the job-role exhibited positive growth, up 3% month-on-month and 14% on a six-month basis.

Demand for **Customer Service** professionals plummeted the most amongst job roles in January and February, down -33% and -38% year-on-year respectively. **Engineering /Production, Real Estate** job roles also registered the steepest annual decline since August 2016, down -16% in February.

“Despite the Malaysian economy recording a growth of 4.7% in 2018 - with the Central Bank of Malaysia expecting the economy to continue to expand at a steady pace - the hiring outlook in Malaysia for the start of the first quarter has weakened as employers remain in a cautious hiring mood,” said **Abhijeet Mukherjee, CEO of Monster.com – APAC and Middle East.**

“However, the demand for skilled tech professionals and hiring across the IT industry continues to rise as the sector records 11 straight months of positive annual growth. Digital marketing and data science appeared as the top sought after skills in the first quarter. Both large organisations and SMEs have a growing need for skilled tech workers and the widening skills gap is one of the biggest hurdles facing business owners. With limited supply and fierce competition, many companies have to start investing in reskilling their current workforce and shift the company’s culture to become more innovative and adaptable.”

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:

Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Y-o-Y
65	66	61	62	60	60	58	61	55	61	58	58	56	59	58	60	55	55	-8%

Top Growth Industries

Year-over-year Growth	Feb 18	Feb 19	% Growth Y-o-Y
IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES	97	121	25%

Lowest Growth Industries

Year-over-year Growth	Feb 18	Feb 19	% Growth Y-o-Y
Hospitality	65	58	-11%

Oil and Gas	93	103	11%
Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary	90	91	1%
Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment	57	52	-9%

Engineering, Construction and Real Estate	66	55	-17%
Retail	41	33	-20%
Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine	68	54	-21%

Top Growth Occupations

Year-over-year Growth	Feb 18	Feb 19	% Growth Y-o-Y
Software, Hardware, Telecom	61	64	5%
Marketing & Communications	77	75	-3%
HR & Admin	58	56	-3%
Sales & Business Development	76	69	-9%

Lowest Growth Occupations

Year-over-year Growth	Feb 18	Feb 19	% Growth Y-o-Y
Finance & Accounts	69	60	-13%
Engineering /Production, Real Estate	70	59	-16%
Hospitality & Travel	39	32	-18%
Customer Service	24	15	-38%

By Industry

	2018											2019	
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES	97	84	94	88	101	102	102	106	124	119	118	118	121
Engineering, Construction and Real Estate	66	63	68	62	66	63	62	59	62	60	59	56	55
BFSI	68	66	70	57	68	63	62	58	64	61	61	60	62
Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary	90	87	90	90	92	90	89	88	91	90	91	88	91
Oil and Gas	93	94	91	89	92	92	94	87	98	103	98	102	103
Hospitality	65	64	58	54	55	53	55	53	55	54	56	55	58
Retail	41	38	43	35	42	39	40	37	43	40	40	35	33
Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine	68	67	69	53	70	69	66	59	68	61	64	63	54
Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment	57	56	59	53	60	56	58	54	58	56	55	53	52

By Occupation

	2018											2019	
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Software, Hardware, Telecom	61	50	58	48	60	57	56	57	67	67	62	62	64
Finance & Accounts	69	68	71	62	68	64	64	60	65	62	61	60	60

Sales & Business Development	76	72	76	70	72	73	74	72	76	74	76	69	69
Customer Service	24	19	21	17	22	22	22	22	30	19	15	16	15
Marketing & Communications	77	77	79	75	79	77	78	76	78	77	78	75	75
HR & Admin	58	59	62	57	61	59	59	57	58	56	58	56	56
Engineering /Production, Real Estate	70	68	70	65	71	66	66	62	66	64	63	60	59
Hospitality & Travel	39	45	38	46	49	46	45	50	34	38	52	34	32
Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply Chain	73	72	74	63	74	74	71	66	72	68	71	65	64

About the Monster Employment Index

Launched in May 2015, with data collected since February 2014, the Monster Employment Index is a broad and comprehensive monthly analysis of online job posting activity in Malaysia conducted by Monster Malaysia. Based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of online career outlets, including Monster Malaysia, 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 APAC & Gulf

Monster has been a leading online career and recruitment resource for more than 20 years. With its cutting-edge technology, it provides relevant profiles to employers and relevant jobs to jobseekers across industry verticals, experience levels and geographies. Monster today has more than 200 million people registered on the Monster Worldwide network, and with operations in more than 40 countries, provides the widest and most sophisticated job seeking, career management, recruitment and talent management capabilities.

Monster in APAC & Gulf started its operations with India in 2001 and has operations across India, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, UAE and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In India, it is headquartered in Hyderabad, and has presence in 10 other cities of India viz., Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Chandigarh, and Cochin. Monster Mobile App in India was voted Product of the Year in 2016 under the 'Mobile App Job' category in a survey of over 18000 people by Nielsen. Monster.com in India was also voted Product of the Year in 2015 and back in 2014, mPower Search was voted Product of the Year as well. The Indian Air Force Placement Cell (IAFPC) selected Monster India for a collaboration to provide a robust platform to assist retired and shortly retiring Air Warriors seek suitable second career opportunities in the corporate world. Monster also initiated 'Rozgarduniya.com' – a job portal exclusively for jobseekers in rural India to enable employers in corporate India to connect with rural talent, thus removing the traditional barriers they face in this process.

Monster continues its pioneering work of transforming the recruiting industry with advanced technology using intelligent digital, social and mobile solutions, and a vast array of products and services.

To learn more about Monster in APAC & Gulf,

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