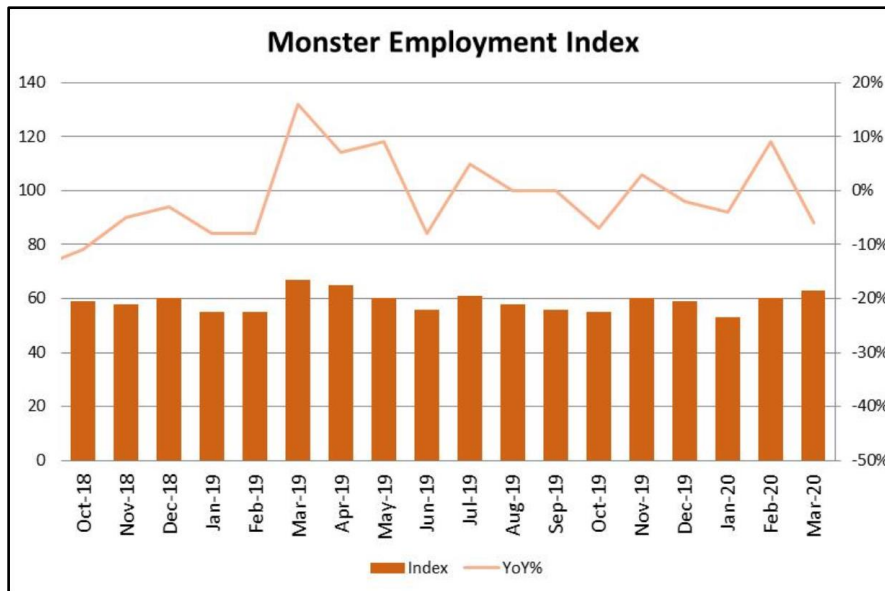


## Malaysia Experiences Steep Decline in Online Hiring for March 2020

- Malaysia witnesses a 6% year-on-year decline in March 2020.
- Only two of the nine industry sectors monitored witnessed positive growth in online recruitment activity.
- Logistic, Courier/Freight/Transportation, Shipping/Marine sector recorded the most-notable decline among industry sectors in March 2020.



**KUALA LUMPUR, 21 APRIL 2020** – Despite seeing positive annual growth the month before, Malaysia witnessed a sharp decline in online hiring for March 2020.

According to Monster Employment Index (MEI), the beginning of the year started off rocky or e-recruitment in Malaysia, as January brought a decline of 4% year-on-year. In February, though, online recruitment in Malaysia saw a significant spike, with a 9% year-on-year increase. However, this was followed by another dip in March which saw a 6% year-on-year decline.

*“The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the world in an unprecedented way. On 18 March, Malaysia implemented a national Movement Control Order (MCO) as a measure to curb the spread of the virus. This partial lockdown has severely impacted many businesses and companies in Malaysia, and online hiring has also taken a hit. We are cautiously optimistic that there will be a gradual U-shaped economic recovery for the region, and hope we will see an improvement in online recruitment once the MCO is lifted,”* said **Krish Seshadri, CEO of Monster.com – APAC and Middle East.**

Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	y-o-y Jan	y-o-y Feb	y-o-y Mar
55	55	67	65	60	56	61	58	56	55	60	59	53	60	63	-4%	9%	-6%

The Monster Employment Index (MEI) is a gauge of online job posting activity compiled monthly by [Monster.com](https://www.monster.com). It records the industries and occupations that show the highest and lowest growth in local recruitment activity.

In March 2020, only two of the nine industry sectors monitored by the Index, witnessed growth in online recruitment activity.

Malaysia's **Oil and Gas** sector witnessed the biggest growth, registering a 6% year-on-year increase in online recruitment activity in the month of March. This is the most notable hike in e-recruitment activity for the **Oil and Gas** industry since October 2019. The growth momentum improved by nine percentage points – up from a decline of 3% in February 2020. In the short-term, the sector has fared well, up 5% (month-on-month), up 4% (three-month) and up 3% (six-month).

The **IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES** industry continues to reign as the most popular industry in e-recruitment in Malaysia. For the month of March, there was a 3% year-on-year increase in demand for hiring, but on-the-month, the sector saw no growth (zero percent).

E-recruitment activity in **Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment** saw marginal decline of 2% on-the-year, down from 19% growth last month. Nonetheless, on a six-month basis, the sector exhibited the steepest growth (up 13%) among all sectors.

Year-on-year, the **Hospitality** industry receded in annual growth for the first time since April 2019, with a decrease of 3%. Month-on-month, the sector saw a decline of 8%.

Meanwhile, the **Logistic, Courier/Freight/Transportation, Shipping/Marine** sector recorded the most notable decline among industry sectors in March 2020, with a 18% year-on-year decline.

In terms of specific job roles, the year-on-year growth for professionals was positive in only one of the nine job-roles monitored by the Index. **Software, Hardware, Telecom** professionals were the only occupation group to record positive growth among job-roles, with a 9% year-on-year growth in March. In short-term, the sector witnessed strong double-digit growth across the board; up 12% (month-on-month), up 29% (three-month) and up 24% (six-month).

**Marketing & Communications** professionals witnessed a 5% decline on an annual basis in March and long-term growth momentum for this occupation group eased by 10% between February and March 2020. However, monthly demand recorded a small growth of 1% in March.

Year-on-year, **Sales & Business Development** professionals recorded a decline of 6%. Nevertheless, online demand remained positive on all other parameters; up 5% (month-on-month), up 10% (three-month) and up 4% (six-month).

Meanwhile, **Customer Service** and **Hospitality & Travel** (both down 27% year-on-year) recorded the steepest annual decline in March 2020 among job-roles.

The Monster Employment Index 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.

### By Industry

	2019										2020		
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
<b>IT, Telecom/ISP and BPO/ITES</b>	134	134	127	125	136	141	139	138	149	146	123	138	138
<b>Engineering, Construction and Real Estate</b>	68	62	59	54	59	56	56	56	58	57	51	56	60
<b>BFSI</b>	76	71	65	59	68	64	62	57	63	63	55	67	68
<b>Production/Manufacturing, Automotive and Ancillary</b>	95	93	89	88	91	88	88	87	89	89	86	91	93
<b>Oil and Gas</b>	99	106	99	102	110	116	102	98	99	101	96	100	105
<b>Hospitality</b>	61	63	63	59	66	71	61	58	66	68	68	64	59
<b>Retail</b>	55	54	47	42	48	45	45	40	45	40	30	43	46
<b>Logistic, Courier/ Freight/ Transportation, Shipping/ Marine</b>	80	73	68	59	71	63	59	59	58	58	45	55	66
<b>Advertising, Market Research, Public Relations, Media and Entertainment</b>	64	63	58	55	60	58	56	57	61	60	54	62	63

### By Occupation

	2019	2020
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	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
<b>Software, Hardware, Telecom</b>	85	82	71	68	78	74	75	77	78	72	58	83	93
<b>Finance &amp; Accounts</b>	70	67	63	59	65	61	60	56	60	60	55	63	64
<b>Sales &amp; Business Development</b>	83	82	77	74	78	75	75	71	75	71	64	74	78
<b>Customer Service</b>	22	23	23	22	27	22	23	24	30	27	17	19	16
<b>Marketing &amp; Communications</b>	84	83	79	77	80	77	76	76	79	77	74	79	80
<b>HR &amp; Admin</b>	65	62	59	56	60	56	56	55	57	55	52	56	57
<b>Engineering /Production, Real Estate</b>	70	66	62	59	64	60	60	60	61	61	56	62	65
<b>Hospitality &amp; Travel</b>	33	39	37	47	41	44	39	40	53	55	34	35	24
<b>Purchase/ Logistics/ Supply Chain</b>	80	76	72	65	74	69	67	66	65	65	57	64	72

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### **About the Monster Employment Index**

The Monster Employment Index is a broad and comprehensive monthly analysis of online job posting activity conducted by Monster India. Based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of online career outlets, the Monster Employment Index presents a snapshot of employer online recruitment activity locally. 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. Monster Employment Index was first launched in India in May 2010 with data collected since October 2009 followed by Gulf in April 2011 with data collected since October 2010; Singapore in May 2014 with data collected since January 2011; Philippines and Malaysia in May 2015 with data collected since February 2014.

### **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 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, visit: [www.monsterindia.com](http://www.monsterindia.com) | [www.monstergulf.com](http://www.monstergulf.com) | [www.monster.com.sg](http://www.monster.com.sg) | [www.monster.com.my](http://www.monster.com.my) | [www.monster.com.ph](http://www.monster.com.ph) | [www.monster.com.hk](http://www.monster.com.hk)

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