

**Employment bulletin of the Finnish Ministry of Labour,
April 2007**

At the end of April, there were 212,300 unemployed job applicants registered at the employment offices, i.e. 35,600 less than a year ago. Compared with March, the number of unemployed job applicants decreased by 9,200. Unemployment decreased from the previous year in the areas of all Employment and Economic Development Centres. The number of placements through the training and subsidized measures of the labour administration increased by 4,400 since April the previous year.

In April, there were 6,700 laid-off workers among the unemployed, i.e. 2,300 less than in March. Since April the previous year, the number of lay-offs decreased by 2,800. There were 1,200 job applicants on short week, this being 300 less than the previous year.

During April, 44,400 new vacancies were reported to the employment offices, i.e. 8,100 more than in April the previous year. In all, the number of open vacancies at the employment offices amounted to 97,100 in April. Of the vacancies, 51,700 were filled during April, 22,400 of them through the employment offices. At the end of April, there were still 45,200 open vacancies at the employment offices, up 5,300 on the previous year.

Of the unemployed job applicants, 112,900 (53%) were men and 99,400 (47%) women. Since March, unemployment among men decreased by 7,400 and among women by 1,800. Compared with April a year ago, unemployment among men decreased by 22,500 (-17%) and among women by 13,100 (-12%).

At the end of April, the number of unemployed job applicants under 25 years of age amounted to 20,100. This is 3,800 less than in April a year ago. Youth unemployment decreased by 1,100 since March. Unemployed job applicants under 20 years of age numbered 3,700. Unemployed job applicants over 50 years of age amounted to 87,300, down 8,800 on the previous year. Unemployed job applicants over 55 years of age numbered 62,600, down 4,500 on the previous year.

At the end of April, the number of long-term unemployed who had been unemployed without interruption for more than a year amounted to 53,700, down 13,200 on the previous year. Of these, persons unemployed without interruption for more than two years numbered 25,800, down 3,600 on the previous year.

At the end of April, the number of persons covered by training and subsidized employment measures arranged by the labour administration amounted to 94,700, up 4,400 on the previous year. Compared with March, the number of measures increased by 100. In all, 3.6% of the labour force was covered by these measures.

At the end of April, the number of people placed under employment subsidy measures arranged by the labour administration was 41,000, up 3,300 on the previous year. Of these placements, 4% were in government jobs, 26% in local government jobs and 70% in the private sector. Since April the previous year, the number of placements in government jobs had increased by 11%, remained at the same level in local government jobs, and increased by 12% in the private sector.

At the end of April, labour market training was attended by 35,200 students, up 1,600 on the previous year. During April, 6,400 new students started labour market training.

TABLE 1. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF APRIL (I) AND ACTIVITIES OF EMPLOYMENT OFFICES DURING APRIL (II)

I EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF MONTH		APRIL 07	APRIL 06	CHANGE	
				PERSONS	%
A. JOB-SEEKERS					
1.	Unemployed	212331	247949	-35618	-14,4
	- laid off	6661	9418	-2757	-29,3
2.	On reduced working week	1162	1468	-306	-20,8
3.	Those who have work	117303	119610	-2307	-1,9
	- in the conventional labour market	70669	75476	-4807	-6,4
	- in subsidized employment	46634	44134	2500	5,7
4.	Persons not in labour force	73312	72510	802	1,1
5.	Unemployment pensioners	44733	46625	-1892	-4,1
1-5	Total of job-seekers	448841	488162	-39321	-8,1
B. LABOUR DEMAND					
1.	Jobs vacant	45159	39837	5322	13,4
	- notified for over a month	18830	12973	5857	45,1
	- notified for over 2 months	9222	6798	2424	35,7
C. SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT					
1.	Placement in the state	1781	1600	181	11,3
2.	Placement in the municipalities	10392	10401	-9	-0,1
3.	Placement in the private sector	28795	25654	3141	12,2
1-3	Total employment subsidy measures	40968	37655	3313	8,8
4.	Labour market training	35207	33633	1574	4,7
5.	Trainee work with lab.mark.supp./coaching for working life	12328	13525	-1197	-8,9
6.	In job alternation places	6220	5523	697	12,6
1-6	Total measures	94723	90336	4387	4,9
D. STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT					
1.	Unemployed women	99397	112495	-13098	-11,6
2.	Under 25 years old	20063	23864	-3801	-15,9
3.	Unemployed over a year	53706	66939	-13233	-19,8
E. UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY					
1.	Members of unemployment funds	96065	111257	-15192	-13,7
II EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING THE MONTH					
1.	Unemployed persons*	242899	276098	-33199	-12,0
2.	Other job-seekers	235499	239548	-4049	-1,7
1-2	Total number of job-seekers	478398	515646	-37248	-7,2
3.	Vacancies during a month	97076	85407	11669	13,7
	- of those new vacancies	44450	36351	8099	22,3
	- vacancies filled during a month	51672	51175	497	1,0
	- filled with job-seekers at the Employment Service	22371	15672	6699	42,7
4.	Started spell of unemployment	51306	55045	-3739	-6,8
5.	Completed spell of unemployment	58261	58127	134	0,2
6.	New placements with subsidies	11061	9321	1740	18,7
7.	New entrants to labour market training	6450	5904	546	9,2

* Laid offs excluded