

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

At the end of January, there were 243,800 unemployed job applicants registered at the employment offices, i.e. 36,600 less than a year ago. Compared with December, the number of unemployed job applicants decreased by 2,900. 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 8,100 since January the previous year.

In January, there were 9,800 laid-off workers among the unemployed, i.e. the same number as in December. Since January the previous year, the number of lay-offs decreased by 2,700. There were 1,300 job applicants on short week, this being 300 less than the previous year.

During January, 56,900 new vacancies were reported to the employment offices, i.e. 8,700 more than in January the previous year. In all, the number of open vacancies at the employment offices amounted to 81,100 in January. Of the vacancies, 33,000 were filled during January, 14,600 of them through the employment offices. At the end of January, there were still 47,600 open vacancies at the employment offices, up 5,900 on the previous year.

Of the unemployed job applicants, 129,800 (53%) were men and 113,900 (47%) women. Since December, unemployment among men increased by 1,000, while unemployment among women decreased by 3,900. Compared with January a year ago, unemployment among men decreased by 21,400 (-14%) and among women by 15,200 (-12%).

At the end of January, the number of unemployed job applicants under 25 years of age amounted to 25,800. This is 4,300 less than in January a year ago. Youth unemployment increased by 100 since December. Unemployed job applicants under 20 years of age numbered 5,000. Unemployed job applicants over 50 years of age amounted to 94,400, down 7,900 on the previous year. Unemployed job applicants over 55 years of age numbered 66,200, down 3,500 on the previous year.

At the end of January, the number of long-term unemployed who had been unemployed without interruption for more than a year amounted to 58,200, down 13,100 on the previous year. Of these, persons unemployed without interruption for more than two years numbered 27,700, down 3,100 on the previous year.

At the end of January, the number of persons covered by training and subsidized employment measures arranged by the labour administration amounted to 89,300, up 8,100 on the previous year. Compared with December, the number of measures increased by 6,100. In all, 3.5% of the labour force was covered by these measures.

At the end of January, the number of people placed under employment subsidy measures arranged by the labour administration was 39,600, up 3,900 on the previous year. Of these placements, 4% were in government jobs, 27% in local government jobs and 69% in the private sector. Since January the previous year, the number of placements in government jobs had increased by 25%, in local government jobs by 5%, and in the private sector by 12%

At the end of January, labour market training was attended by 31,800 students, up 3,300 on the previous year. During January, 9,800 new students started labour market training.

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

I EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF MONTH	JAN. 07	JAN. 06	CHANGE	
			PERSONS	%
A. JOB-SEEKERS				
1. Unemployed	243784	280402	-36618	-13,1
- laid off	9847	12560	-2713	-21,6
2. On reduced working week	1274	1584	-310	-19,6
3. Those who have work	110471	109804	667	0,6
- in the conventional labour market	66646	69338	-2692	-3,9
- in subsidized employment	43825	40466	3359	8,3
4. Persons not in labour force	61741	56654	5087	9,0
5. Unemployment pensioners	44213	47965	-3752	-7,8
1-5 Total of job-seekers	461483	496409	-34926	-7,0
B. LABOUR DEMAND				
1. Jobs vacant	47584	41715	5869	14,1
- notified for over a month	10434	8580	1854	21,6
- notified for over 2 months	3362	2797	565	20,2
C. SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT				
1. Placement in the state	1650	1322	328	24,8
2. Placement in the municipalities	10472	9976	496	5,0
3. Placement in the private sector	27516	24481	3035	12,4
1-3 Total employment subsidy measures	39638	35779	3859	10,8
4. Labour market training	31796	28468	3328	11,7
5. Trainee work with lab.mark.supp./coaching for working life	12520	12137	383	3,2
6. In job alternation places	5350	4817	533	11,1
1-6 Total measures	89304	81201	8103	10,0
D. STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT				
1. Unemployed women	113946	129152	-15206	-11,8
2. Under 25 years old	25831	30156	-4325	-14,3
3. Unemployed over a year	58180	71314	-13134	-18,4
E. UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY				
1. Members of unemployment funds	112580	128528	-15948	-12,4
II EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING THE MONTH				
1. Unemployed persons*	284683	317069	-32386	-10,2
2. Other job-seekers	212265	214524	-2259	-1,1
1-2 Total number of job-seekers	496948	531593	-34645	-6,5
3. Vacancies during a month	81087	69432	11655	16,8
- of those new vacancies	56911	48255	8656	17,9
- vacancies filled during a month	33042	28130	4912	17,5
- filled with job-seekers at the Employment Service	14582	11471	3111	27,1
4. Started spell of unemployment	68660	70477	-1817	-2,6
5. Completed spell of unemployment	74962	75908	-946	-1,2
6. New placements with subsidies	15038	13721	1317	9,6
7. New entrants to labour market training	9829	8301	1528	18,4

* Laid offs excluded