

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

At the end of May, there were 202,000 unemployed job applicants registered at the employment offices, i.e. 33,400 less than a year ago. Compared with April, the number of unemployed job applicants decreased by 10,300. 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 4,600 since May the previous year.

In May, there were 4,700 laid-off workers among the unemployed, i.e. 2,000 less than in April. Since May the previous year, the number of lay-offs decreased by 1,500. There were 1,100 job applicants on short week, this being 300 less than the previous year.

During May, 46,900 new vacancies were reported to the employment offices, i.e. 2,600 more than in May the previous year. In all, the number of open vacancies at the employment offices amounted to 90,300 in May. Of the vacancies, 53,900 were filled during May, 25,600 of them through the employment offices. At the end of May, there were still 37,300 open vacancies at the employment offices, up 6,100 on the previous year.

Of the unemployed job applicants, 103,300 (51%) were men and 98,700 (49%) women. Since April, unemployment among men decreased by 9,600 and among women by 700. Compared with May a year ago, unemployment among men decreased by 18,500 (-15%) and among women by 14,900 (-13%).

At the end of May, the number of unemployed job applicants under 25 years of age amounted to 18,900. This is 3,900 less than in May a year ago. Youth unemployment decreased by 1,200 since April. Unemployed job applicants under 20 years of age numbered 3,500. Unemployed job applicants over 50 years of age amounted to 83,900, down 8,700 on the previous year. Unemployed job applicants over 55 years of age numbered 60,600, down 4,800 on the previous year.

At the end of May, the number of long-term unemployed who had been unemployed without interruption for more than a year amounted to 52,400, down 12,900 on the previous year. Of these, persons unemployed without interruption for more than two years numbered 25,300, down 3,700 on the previous year.

At the end of May, the number of persons covered by training and subsidized employment measures arranged by the labour administration amounted to 94,200, up 4,600 on the previous year. Compared with April, the number of measures decreased by 500. In all, 3.5% of the labour force was covered by these measures.

At the end of May, the number of people placed under employment subsidy measures arranged by the labour administration was 42,900, up 2,800 on the previous year. Of these placements, 5% were in government jobs, 25% in local government jobs and 70% in the private sector. Since May the previous year, the number of placements had decreased by 1% in government jobs and by 2% in local government jobs, while the placements had increased by 11% in the private sector.

At the end of May, labour market training was attended by 32,000 students, up 1,800 on the previous year. During May, 4,500 new students started labour market training.

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

I EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF MONTH	MAY 07	MAY 06	CHANGE	
			PERSONS	%
A. JOB-SEEKERS				
1. Unemployed	202029	235399	-33370	-14,2
- laid off	4663	6122	-1459	-23,8
2. On reduced working week	1078	1358	-280	-20,6
3. Those who have work	121737	123980	-2243	-1,8
- in the conventional labour market	73551	77881	-4330	-5,6
- in subsidized employment	48186	46099	2087	4,5
4. Persons not in labour force	74228	74344	-116	-0,2
5. Unemployment pensioners	45226	46138	-912	-2,0
1-5 Total of job-seekers	444298	481219	-36921	-7,7
B. LABOUR DEMAND				
1. Jobs vacant	37345	31200	6145	19,7
- notified for over a month	12184	9858	2326	23,6
- notified for over 2 months	6126	5222	904	17,3
C. SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT				
1. Placement in the state	2026	2047	-21	-1,0
2. Placement in the municipalities	10793	11025	-232	-2,1
3. Placement in the private sector	30111	27081	3030	11,2
1-3 Total employment subsidy measures	42930	40153	2777	6,9
4. Labour market training	31962	30148	1814	6,0
5. Trainee work with lab.mark.supp./coaching for working life	12361	13135	-774	-5,9
6. In job alternation places	6939	6177	762	12,3
1-6 Total measures	94192	89613	4579	5,1
D. STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT				
1. Unemployed women	98721	113610	-14889	-13,1
2. Under 25 years old	18908	22813	-3905	-17,1
3. Unemployed over a year	52413	65350	-12937	-19,8
E. UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY				
1. Members of unemployment funds	89842	103824	-13982	-13,5
II EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING THE MONTH				
1. Unemployed persons*	237456	273738	-36282	-13,3
2. Other job-seekers	239423	243283	-3860	-1,6
1-2 Total number of job-seekers	476879	517021	-40142	-7,8
3. Vacancies during a month	90337	77881	12456	16,0
- of those new vacancies	46861	44272	2589	5,8
- vacancies filled during a month	53864	46892	6972	14,9
- filled with job-seekers at the Employment Service	25556	20826	4730	22,7
4. Started spell of unemployment	52853	56215	-3362	-6,0
5. Completed spell of unemployment	61519	69165	-7646	-11,1
6. New placements with subsidies	11623	11497	126	1,1
7. New entrants to labour market training	4453	4341	112	2,6

* Laid offs excluded