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Employment Bulletin of the Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy, March 2012

According to the Employment Service Statistics of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy, at the end of March the number of unemployed jobseekers registered at Employment and Economic Development Offices totalled 246,100, down 1,500 on the previous year. Compared with February, the number of unemployed jobseekers decreased by 7,700.

In March, 19,000 of the unemployed jobseekers were individually laid-off, which is 1,400 less than in February. Since March a year ago, the number of individual lay-offs has decreased by 1,000. Furthermore, jobseekers on a reduced working week numbered 2,400, representing an increase of 100 from the year before.

The number of new vacancies reported to Employment and Economic Development Offices during March totalled 54,400, or 5,800 less than March in the previous year. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled at Employment and Economic Development Offices at the end of March was 114,600, down 2,200 on the previous year. A total of 66,300 of these vacancies were filled during March, 13,000 of them through Employment and Economic Development Offices. The number of vacancies remaining unfilled at the end of March was 53,400, up 500 on the previous year.

Of unemployed jobseekers, 147,800 (60%) were men and 98,200 (40%) women, indicating a decrease of 3,400 for men and of 4,200 for women from the figures for February. Compared with March a year ago, unemployment among men decreased by 1,200 (-1%) and among women by 300 (-0.3%).

At the end of March, unemployed jobseekers under 25 years of age numbered 29,600, representing an increase by 1,200 from March a year ago and a decrease by 2,100 from February. A total of 5,400 of those under 20 years of age were unemployed. For those over 50, this figure was 97,200, up 600 on the year before. Among those over 55, the number of unemployed was 68,900, representing an increase of 1,600 on the year before.

At the end of March, the number of long-term unemployed who had been unemployed without interruption for more than a year amounted to 58,700, up 1,300 on the previous year. Of those, persons unemployed without interruption for more than two years numbered 28,200, up 7,000 on the previous year.

The number of foreign citizens among unemployed jobseekers totalled 18,700, up 1,200 from March a year ago. Of these foreign unemployed jobseekers, EU/EEA citizens accounted for 4,600 at the end of March, up 400 from the year before.

At the end of March, the number of persons covered by training and subsidised employment measures arranged by the labour administration amounted to 115,000, down 800 on the previous year. Compared with February, the number of placements through these measures increased by 3,600. In all, 4.3% of the labour force was covered by these measures.

The number of people placed under employment subsidy measures arranged by the employment and the economy administration was 31,600 at the end of March, down 4,600 on the previous year. Of these placements, 3% were in government jobs, 27% in local government jobs and 70% in the private sector. Since March of the year before, the number of placements has decreased by 33% in government jobs, 11% in local government jobs and 12% in the private sector.

At the end of March, labour market training was attended by 31,700 students, down 5,100 on the previous year. During March, 8,200 new students began labour market training, representing a decrease of 700 on the year before.

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

I EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF MONTH		MAR. 12	MAR. 11	CHANGE PERSONS	%
A.	JOBSEEKERS				
1.	Unemployed	246 078	247 530	-1 452	-0,6
	- of those individual lay-offs	18 997	19 961	-964	-4,8
2.	On reduced working week	2 425	2 357	68	2,9
3.	Those who have work	104 428	108 988	-4 560	-4,2
	- of those in the conventional labour market	63 572	65 259	-1 687	-2,6
	- of those in subsidized employment	40 856	43 729	-2 873	-6,6
4.	Persons not in labour force	85 363	87 462	-2 099	-2,4
5.	Unemployment pensioners	30 821	40 280	-9 459	-23,5
1-5	Total of jobseekers	469 115	486 617	-17 502	-3,6
B.	LABOUR DEMAND				
1.	Jobs vacant	53 435	52 956	479	0,9
	- of those notified for over a month	22 495	19 084	3 411	17,9
	- of those notified for over 2 months	8 848	6 583	2 265	34,4
C.	SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT				
1.	Placement in the state	871	1 301	-430	-33,1
2.	Placement in the municipalities	8 481	9 554	-1 073	-11,2
3.	Placement in the private sector	22 240	25 366	-3 126	-12,3
1-3	Total employment subsidy measures	31 592	36 221	-4 629	-12,8
4.	Labour market training	31 663	36 714	-5 051	-13,8
5.	Trainee work/coaching for working life	14 983	14 117	866	6,1
6.	In job alternation places	6 711	5 459	1 252	22,9
7.	Rehabilitative work	10 511	9 528	983	10,3
8.	Self-motivated studies supported by unemployment benefit	19 542	13 774	5 768	41,9
1-8	Total measures	115 002	115 813	-811	-0,7
D.	STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT				
1.	Unemployed women	98 240	98 540	-300	-0,3
2.	Unemployed men	147 838	148 990	-1 152	-0,8
3.	Under 25 years old	29 605	28 411	1 194	4,2
4.	Over 50 years old	97 176	96 571	605	0,6
5.	Unemployed over a year	58 653	57 355	1 298	2,3
E.	UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY				
1.	Members of unemployment funds	108 433	113 733	-5 300	-4,7
II EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING THE MONTH					
1.	Unemployed persons	285 042	289 261	-4 219	-1,5
2.	Other jobseekers	211 491	226 345	-14 854	-6,6
1-2	Total number of jobseekers	496 533	515 606	-19 073	-3,7
3.	Vacancies during a month	114 604	116 836	-2 232	-1,9
	New vacancies during a month	54 446	60 218	-5 772	-9,6
	Vacancies filled during a month	66 334	63 607	2 727	4,3
	- of those filled with job-seekers at the Employment Service	12 997	13 253	-256	-1,9
4.	Started spell of unemployment	55 264	59 223	-3 959	-6,7
5.	Completed spell of unemployment	57 845	75 559	-17 714	-23,4
6.	New placements with subsidies	9 984	10 900	-916	-8,4
7.	New entrants to labour market training	8 181	8 851	-670	-7,6