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## **Employment Bulletin of the Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy, February 2012**

According to the Employment Service Statistics of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy, at the end of February the number of unemployed jobseekers registered at Employment and Economic Development Offices totalled 253,800, down 5,100 on the previous year. Compared with January, the number of unemployed jobseekers decreased by 4,500.

In February, 20,400 of the unemployed were individually laid-off, which is 1,100 more than in January. Since February a year ago, the number of individual lay-offs has decreased by 1,800. Furthermore, jobseekers on a reduced working week numbered 2,400, representing a decrease of 100 from the year before.

The number of new vacancies reported to Employment and Economic Development Offices during February totalled 62,200, or 2,800 more than February in the previous year. In all, the number of unfilled vacancies at Employment and Economic Development Offices amounted to 110,100 in February, which is 8,700 more than a year ago. A total of 46,800 of these vacancies were filled during February, 9,500 of them through Employment and Economic Development Offices. The number of vacancies remaining unfilled at the end of February was 63,000, up 4,100 on the previous year.

Of unemployed jobseekers, 151,300 (60%) were men and 102,500 (40%) women, indicating a decrease of 1,200 for men and of 3,300 for women from the figures for January. Compared with February a year ago, unemployment among men decreased by 3,500 (-2%) and among women by 1,600 (-2%).

At the end of February, unemployed jobseekers under 25 years of age numbered 31,700, representing an increase by 800 from February a year ago and a decrease by 1,700 from January. A total of 6,000 of those under 20 years of age were unemployed. For those over 50, this figure was 98,700, down 500 on the year before. Among those over 55, the number of unemployed was 69,700, representing an increase of 1,100 on the year before.

At the end of February, the number of long-term unemployed who had been unemployed without interruption for more than a year amounted to 59,100, up 1,100 on the previous year. Of those, persons unemployed without interruption for more than two years numbered 27,600, up 6,800 on the previous year.

The number of foreign citizens among unemployed jobseekers totalled 19,100, up 1,200 from February a year ago. Of these foreign unemployed jobseekers, EU/EEA citizens accounted for 4,800 at the end of February, up 400 from the year before.

At the end of February, the number of persons covered by training and subsidised employment measures arranged by the labour administration amounted to 111,400, down 500 on the previous year. Compared with January, the number of placements through these measures increased by 3,300. In all, 4.2% of the labour force was covered by these measures.

The number of people placed under employment subsidy measures arranged by the employment and economic administration was 31,600 at the end of February, down 4,100 on the previous year. Of these placements, 3% were in government jobs, 26% in local government jobs and 71% in the private sector. Since February of the year before, the number of placements has decreased by 28% in government jobs, 10% in local government jobs and 11% in the private sector.

At the end of February, labour market training was attended by 29,300 students, down 5,200 on the previous year. During February, 7,400 new students began labour market training, representing a decrease of 1,000 on the year before.

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

I EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT THE END OF MONTH		FEB. 12	FEB. 11	CHANGE PERSONS	%
A.	JOBSEEKERS				
1.	Unemployed	253 776	258 890	-5 114	-2,0
	- of those individual lay-offs	20 376	22 214	-1 838	-8,3
2.	On reduced working week	2 389	2 462	-73	-3,0
3.	Those who have work	101 863	106 338	-4 475	-4,2
	- of those in the conventional labour market	61 188	63 162	-1 974	-3,1
	- of those in subsidized employment	40 675	43 176	-2 501	-5,8
4.	Persons not in labour force	82 105	82 876	-771	-0,9
5.	Unemployment pensioners	31 839	41 336	-9 497	-23,0
<b>1-5</b>	<b>Total of jobseekers</b>	<b>471 972</b>	<b>491 902</b>	<b>-19 930</b>	<b>-4,1</b>
B.	LABOUR DEMAND				
1.	Jobs vacant	62 995	58 912	4 083	6,9
	- of those notified for over a month	22 945	17 656	5 289	30,0
	- of those notified for over 2 months	4 408	2 483	1 925	77,5
C.	SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT				
1.	Placement in the state	910	1 265	-355	-28,1
2.	Placement in the municipalities	8 388	9 366	-978	-10,4
3.	Placement in the private sector	22 331	25 059	-2 728	-10,9
<b>1-3</b>	<b>Total employment subsidy measures</b>	<b>31 629</b>	<b>35 690</b>	<b>-4 061</b>	<b>-11,4</b>
4.	Labour market training	29 281	34 478	-5 197	-15,1
5.	Trainee work/coaching for working life	14 624	13 907	717	5,2
6.	In job alternation places	6 447	5 174	1 273	24,6
7.	Rehabilitative work	10 017	9 167	850	9,3
8.	Self-motivated studies supported by unemployment benefit	19 432	13 555	5 877	43,4
<b>1-8</b>	<b>Total measures</b>	<b>111 430</b>	<b>111 971</b>	<b>-541</b>	<b>-0,5</b>
D.	STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT				
1.	Unemployed women	102 488	104 083	-1 595	-1,5
2.	Unemployed men	151 288	154 807	-3 519	-2,3
3.	Under 25 years old	31 695	30 940	755	2,4
4.	Over 50 years old	98 745	99 242	-497	-0,5
5.	Unemployed over a year	59 107	58 000	1 107	1,9
E.	UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY				
1.	Members of unemployment funds	112 980	121 326	-8 346	-6,9
II EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING THE MONTH					
1.	Unemployed persons	288 809	295 243	-6 434	-2,2
2.	Other jobseekers	208 285	221 544	-13 259	-6,0
<b>1-2</b>	<b>Total number of jobseekers</b>	<b>497 094</b>	<b>516 787</b>	<b>-19 693</b>	<b>-3,8</b>
3.	Vacancies during a month	110 122	101 395	8 727	8,6
	New vacancies during a month	62 179	59 341	2 838	4,8
	Vacancies filled during a month	46 847	41 903	4 944	11,8
	- of those filled with job-seekers at the Employment Service	9 543	9 726	-183	-1,9
4.	Started spell of unemployment	54 216	55 222	-1 006	-1,8
5.	Completed spell of unemployment	55 142	70 567	-15 425	-21,9
6.	New placements with subsidies	9 752	10 099	-347	-3,4
7.	New entrants to labour market training	7 362	8 396	-1 034	-12,3