

Labour Force Statistics

2008, March and 1st Quarter

Employment grew and unemployment fell in March 2008

According to the Labour Force Survey of Statistics Finland, the number of **employed persons** in March was 2 475 000, or 29 000 higher than a year earlier. The numbers of wage and salary earners and self-employed persons went up. Among wage and salary earners, the number of permanent, full-time employees increased and that of fixed-term employees decreased. The number of employed persons went up in the Provinces of Southern Finland and Oulu and fell in the Province of Eastern Finland.

In March, the **employment rate**, that is, the proportion of the employed among persons aged 15 to 64, stood at 69,0 per cent, which was 0,3 percentage points higher than one year before. The employment rate of men was 69,8 per cent and that of women 68,2 per cent. Adjusted for seasonal and random variation, the trend of the employment rate was 70,5 per cent.

According to the Labour Force Survey, there were 180 000 **unemployed** in March 2008, i.e. 23 000 fewer than in March of the year before. At 6,8 per cent, the **unemployment rate** was 0,9 percentage points lower than one year earlier. The trend of the unemployment rate was 6,2 per cent in March.

The unemployment rate was lowest in the Province of Southern Finland, where it stood at 4,8 per cent, and highest, at 12,4 per cent, in the Province of Eastern Finland. In March 2008, the unemployment rate among young people aged 15 to 24 was 17,1 per cent, which was 5,6 percentage points lower than in March of the year before. The trend of the unemployment rate among young people was 14,3 per cent.

According to the Labour Force Survey, the average number of employed persons **in the first quarter of 2008** was 2 474 000, which is 59 000 higher than in the respective time period of 2007. The number of wage and salary earners went up and that of self-employed persons remained nearly unchanged. The number of unemployed persons was 176 000, which is 22 000 fewer than in the January to March period of 2007.

Changes in the labour force 2008/03– 2007/03, thousand persons

	2008/03	2007/03	Change, % 2008/03 - 2007/03
Employed	2 475	2 446	1,2
Unemployed	180	203	-11,4
Labour force	2 655	2 648	0,3
Economically inactive	1 342	1 326	1,2
			Percentage points
Employment rate, %	69,0	68,7	0,3
Unemployment rate, %	6,8	7,7	-0,9
Labour force participation rate, %	66,4	66,6	-0,2
Unrounded figures are used in the Change column.			
The data are collected according to the ILO/EU definition.			

Labour Force Survey content and data collection have been revised

As of the beginning of 2008, revisions have been introduced in the Labour Force Survey which broaden its data content. The definitions of some concepts have also been reviewed. The definitions of some concepts have also changed. The revisions are based on EU regulations and their aim is to improve the comparability of the Labour Force Surveys of different EU Member States.

http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/tyti/tyti_2008-02-19_men_001_en.html

NB! As from the beginning of 2008 the industry of temporary employment agency workers has been determined on the basis of the job held during the survey week, whereas previously all temporary employment agency workers were classified as belonging to the industry Labour hire activities 745 (see appendix tables 9.4, 9.5, 10.1 and 10.2. in this publication). The data can be obtained also according the previous classification.

Links: Press release connected to this statistical release (inclusive of data of Ministry of Employment and the Economy):

http://tilastokeskus.fi/ajk/tiedotteet/v2008/tiedote_009_2008-04-22_en.html

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1.1 Key indicators in the Labour Force Survey by sex 2008/03 - 2007/03

Indicator		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Employment rate (population aged 15-64)	Both sexes	69,0	68,9	68,7	0,3
	Males	69,8	70,5	69,0	0,8
	Females	68,2	67,3	68,3	-0,2
Unemployment rate	Both sexes	6,8	6,4	7,7	-0,9
	Males	7,2	5,8	7,6	-0,5
	Females	6,3	7,0	7,7	-1,4
Labour force participation rate	Both sexes	66,4	65,9	66,6	-0,2
	Males	68,6	68,1	67,9	0,7
	Females	64,3	63,7	65,4	-1,1

1.2 Population aged 15-74 by labour force status and sex 2008/03 - 2007/03

Labour force status		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Population aged 15-74	Both sexes	3 997	3 995	3 974	0,6
	Males	1 999	1 998	1 987	0,6
	Females	1 998	1 997	1 988	0,5
Labour force	Both sexes	2 655	2 633	2 648	0,3
	Males	1 371	1 362	1 349	1,7
	Females	1 284	1 272	1 300	-1,2
Employed	Both sexes	2 475	2 465	2 446	1,2
	Males	1 273	1 282	1 246	2,2
	Females	1 202	1 183	1 200	0,2
Unemployed	Both sexes	180	168	203	-11,4
	Males	98	79	103	-4,5
	Females	81	88	100	-18,6
Total persons not in labour force	Both sexes	1 342	1 362	1 326	1,2
	Males	628	637	638	-1,6
	Females	714	725	688	3,8

1.3 Population aged 15-74 by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

Sex		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Both sexes	Age group				
	15-74	3 997	3 995	3 974	0,6
	15-24	659	659	658	0,3
	25-54	2 117	2 117	2 125	-0,4
	55-74	1 221	1 218	1 192	2,4
	15-64	3 533	3 532	3 508	0,7

		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Males	15-74	1 999	1 998	1 987	0,6
	15-24	337	337	336	0,3
	25-54	1 074	1 074	1 078	-0,3
	55-74	588	587	573	2,6
	15-64	1 786	1 785	1 773	0,7
Females	15-74	1 998	1 997	1 988	0,5
	15-24	323	322	322	0,2
	25-54	1 042	1 044	1 047	-0,4
	55-74	633	631	619	2,2
	15-64	1 747	1 747	1 735	0,7

2.1 Labour force participation rate by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

Sex		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Both sexes	Age group				
	15-74	66,4	65,9	66,6	-0,2
	15-24	45,7	45,2	47,3	-1,6
	25-54	88,0	88,3	87,4	0,6
	55-74	40,3	38,2	40,3	0,0
	15-64	74,1	73,7	74,4	-0,4
Males	15-74	68,6	68,1	67,9	0,7
	15-24	44,8	41,9	46,5	-1,6
	25-54	90,0	91,1	88,6	1,4
	55-74	43,1	41,3	41,5	1,7
	15-64	75,3	75,0	74,8	0,5
Females	15-74	64,3	63,7	65,4	-1,1
	15-24	46,6	48,7	48,2	-1,6
	25-54	85,9	85,5	86,2	-0,3
	55-74	37,7	35,2	39,1	-1,5
	15-64	72,9	72,4	74,1	-1,3

2.2 Labour force by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

Sex		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Both sexes	Age group				
	15-74	2 655	2 633	2 648	0,3
	15-24	301	298	311	-3,2
	25-54	1 862	1 870	1 857	0,3
	55-74	492	465	480	2,5
	15-64	2 617	2 602	2 611	0,2
Males	15-74	1 371	1 362	1 349	1,7
	15-24	151	141	156	-3,3
	25-54	967	978	955	1,2
	55-74	254	243	238	6,7
	15-64	1 344	1 338	1 326	1,4
Females	15-74	1 284	1 272	1 300	-1,2
	15-24	150	157	155	-3,2
	25-54	895	893	902	-0,8
	55-74	238	222	242	-1,6
	15-64	1 273	1 264	1 286	-1,0

3.1 Employment rate by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	61,9	61,7	61,5	0,4
	15-24	37,9	37,8	36,6	1,3
	25-54	83,1	83,9	82,5	0,6
	55-74	38,3	36,1	37,9	0,3
	15-64	69,0	68,9	68,7	0,3
Males	15-74	63,7	64,2	62,7	1,0
	15-24	36,4	35,1	35,4	1,0
	25-54	84,9	87,1	83,9	1,0
	55-74	40,5	39,0	38,9	1,6
	15-64	69,8	70,5	69,0	0,8
Females	15-74	60,2	59,3	60,4	-0,2
	15-24	39,4	40,5	37,8	1,6
	25-54	81,2	80,7	81,0	0,1
	55-74	36,2	33,4	37,1	-0,9
	15-64	68,2	67,3	68,3	-0,2

3.2 Employed persons by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	2 475	2 465	2 446	1,2
	15-24	250	249	241	3,8
	25-54	1 758	1 777	1 753	0,3
	55-74	467	439	452	3,3
	15-64	2 437	2 435	2 408	1,2
Males	15-74	1 273	1 282	1 246	2,2
	15-24	123	118	119	3,0
	25-54	912	935	904	0,9
	55-74	238	229	223	6,8
	15-64	1 246	1 259	1 223	1,9
Females	15-74	1 202	1 183	1 200	0,2
	15-24	127	130	122	4,6
	25-54	846	842	848	-0,3
	55-74	229	211	229	-0,2
	15-64	1 191	1 176	1 186	0,5

3.3 Employed persons by status in employment 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Status in employment				
Employed persons total	2 475	2 465	2 446	1,2
Self-employed persons and unpaid family workers	321	310	305	5,4
Employees	2 154	2 156	2 141	0,6
-salaried employees	1 413	1 433	1 420	-0,5
-wage earners	732	718	716	2,3

3.4 Employed persons by employer sector 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employer sector				
Employer sector total (incl. employer sector unknown)	2 475	2 465	2 446	1,2
Private sector	1 802	1 807	1 786	0,9
Public sector	662	648	656	1,0
-state	155	154	145	6,8
-municipality	508	494	511	-0,7

3.5 Employed persons by province 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Province				
Whole country (incl. Åland)	2 475	2 465	2 446	1,2
Southern Finland	1 095	1 083	1 059	3,4
Western Finland	853	861	857	-0,5
Eastern Finland	228	231	239	-4,6
Oulu	209	199	200	4,5
Lapland	75	77	77	-2,8

3.6 Proportion of part-time employed persons in all employed persons by sex 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex				
Both sexes	14,5	14,0	15,4	-0,9
Males	9,7	9,4	10,6	-0,9
Females	19,6	19,1	20,5	-0,8

3.7 Part-time employed persons by sex 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex				
Both sexes	360	346	377	-4,6
Males	124	120	132	-6,1
Females	236	226	245	-3,8

4.1 Employees by type of employment relationship (%) 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Employment relationship				
Employees total	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0
-permanent full-time job	76,7	77,7	74,1	2,7
-permanent part-time job	9,7	9,6	10,6	-0,9
-fixed-term full-time job	9,3	8,9	11,3	-1,9
-fixed-term part-time job	4,2	3,8	4,0	0,1
Fixed-term job total	13,5	12,7	15,3	-1,8
Part-time job total	13,9	13,4	14,7	-0,8

4.2 Employees by type of employment relationship 2008/03 - 2007/03

	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employment relationship				
Employees total	2 154	2 156	2 141	0,6
-permanent full-time job	1 653	1 674	1 586	4,2
-permanent part-time job	210	207	228	-7,9
-fixed-term full-time job	201	192	241	-16,6
-fixed-term part-time job	90	83	86	4,3
Fixed-term job total	291	275	327	-11,0
Part-time job total	300	290	314	-4,6

5.1 Unemployment rate by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	6,8	6,4	7,7	-0,9
	15-24	17,1	16,5	22,7	-5,6
	25-54	5,6	5,0	5,6	-0,1
	55-74	5,0	5,5	5,7	-0,7
	15-64	6,9	6,4	7,8	-0,9
Males	15-74	7,2	5,8	7,6	-0,5
	15-24	18,8	16,2	23,7	-5,0
	25-54	5,6	4,3	5,4	0,3
	55-74	6,1	5,8	6,2	-0,1
	15-64	7,3	5,9	7,8	-0,4
Females	15-74	6,3	7,0	7,7	-1,4
	15-24	15,3	16,8	21,6	-6,3
	25-54	5,5	5,6	5,9	-0,5
	55-74	3,9	5,3	5,3	-1,4
	15-64	6,4	7,0	7,8	-1,4

5.2 Unemployed persons by sex and age 2008/03 - 2007/03

		Year/Month			Change
		2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	180	168	203	-11,4
	15-24	51	49	71	-27,2
	25-54	104	93	105	-1,1
	55-74	25	26	27	-10,0
	15-64	180	167	203	-11,4
Males	15-74	98	79	103	-4,5
	15-24	28	23	37	-23,5
	25-54	55	43	51	6,7
	55-74	15	14	15	4,8
	15-64	98	79	103	-4,5
Females	15-74	81	88	100	-18,6
	15-24	23	26	34	-31,3
	25-54	49	50	54	-8,6
	55-74	9	12	13	-27,1
	15-64	81	88	100	-18,6

5.3 Unemployment rate by province 2008/03 - 2007/03

Province	Year/Month			Change
	2008/03	2008/02	2007/03	2008/03 - 2007/03
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Whole country (incl. Åland)	6,8	6,4	7,7	-0,9
Southern Finland	4,8	5,7	7,2	-2,4
Western Finland	6,8	6,0	6,7	0,1
Eastern Finland	12,4	8,8	10,2	2,2
Oulu	9,0	7,2	10,5	-1,5
Lapland	9,8	11,0	8,9	0,9

6.1 Seasonally adjusted trends 2008/03

Year/month	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployed job seekers (Ministry of Employment and the Economy)	Unemployment rate	
				Aged 15–74	Aged 15–24
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	%	%
2006/03	2 431	208	260	7,9	18,9
2006/04	2 431	207	257	7,8	18,9
2006/05	2 433	208	254	7,9	19,1
2006/06	2 436	206	251	7,8	19,0
2006/07	2 441	204	249	7,8	18,8
2006/08	2 446	204	246	7,8	18,7
2006/09	2 451	204	243	7,7	18,6
2006/10	2 455	201	239	7,6	18,1
2006/11	2 460	195	236	7,4	17,5
2006/12	2 464	191	233	7,2	17,1
2007/01	2 468	190	230	7,2	17,1
2007/02	2 473	191	228	7,1	17,2
2007/03	2 480	188	225	7,0	16,9
2007/04	2 486	182	222	6,8	16,1
2007/05	2 490	179	220	6,8	15,7
2007/06	2 494	183	217	6,9	16,0
2007/07	2 497	184	215	7,0	16,2
2007/08	2 499	184	213	7,0	16,3
2007/09	2 503	184	211	6,9	16,4
2007/10	2 507	182	210	6,9	16,5
2007/11	2 512	179	208	6,7	16,3
2007/12	2 517	177	206	6,6	15,9
2008/01	2 522	173	205	6,4	15,3
2008/02	2 525	170	204	6,3	14,8
2008/03	2 528	169	203	6,2	14,3

7.1 Key indicators in the Labour Force Survey by sex 2008/I - 2007/I

Indicator		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Employment rate (population aged 15-64)	Both sexes	69,1	69,5	67,9	1,1
	Males	70,3	70,7	68,6	1,7
	Females	67,8	68,2	67,3	0,5
Unemployment rate	Both sexes	6,6	6,1	7,6	-0,9
	Males	6,4	5,9	7,5	-1,1
	Females	6,9	6,3	7,6	-0,8
Labour force participation rate	Both sexes	66,3	66,3	65,8	0,6
	Males	68,4	68,3	67,3	1,1
	Females	64,2	64,3	64,2	0,0

7.2 Population aged 15-74 by labour force status and sex 2008/I - 2007/I

Labour force status		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Population aged 15-74	Both sexes	3 995	3 989	3 973	0,5
	Males	1 998	1 995	1 986	0,6
	Females	1 997	1 994	1 987	0,5
Labour force	Both sexes	2 650	2 646	2 613	1,4
	Males	1 368	1 364	1 337	2,3
	Females	1 282	1 283	1 276	0,5
Employed	Both sexes	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
	Males	1 280	1 284	1 236	3,5
	Females	1 194	1 201	1 179	1,3
Unemployed	Both sexes	176	161	198	-11,2
	Males	88	80	101	-12,7
	Females	88	81	98	-9,7

7.3 Population aged 15-74 by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	3 995	3 989	3 973	0,5
	15-24	659	659	657	0,3
	25-54	2 117	2 118	2 126	-0,4
	55-74	1 218	1 212	1 190	2,4
	15-64	3 531	3 527	3 507	0,7
Males	15-74	1 998	1 995	1 986	0,6
	15-24	337	336	336	0,4
	25-54	1 074	1 076	1 078	-0,4
	55-74	587	583	572	2,6
	15-64	1 785	1 783	1 773	0,7
Females	15-74	1 997	1 994	1 987	0,5
	15-24	322	323	322	0,2
	25-54	1 043	1 042	1 047	-0,4
	55-74	631	629	618	2,2
	15-64	1 747	1 744	1 734	0,7

8.1 Labour force participation rate by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	66,3	66,3	65,8	0,6
	15-24	45,7	46,8	44,9	0,8
	25-54	88,3	88,0	87,5	0,9
	55-74	39,2	39,1	38,5	0,7
	15-64	74,1	74,0	73,6	0,5
Males	15-74	68,4	68,3	67,3	1,1
	15-24	43,6	44,2	43,3	0,3
	25-54	90,7	90,3	89,2	1,5
	55-74	42,1	41,7	40,2	1,8
	15-64	75,2	75,1	74,3	1,0
Females	15-74	64,2	64,3	64,2	0,0
	15-24	48,0	49,5	46,6	1,4
	25-54	85,9	85,6	85,7	0,2
	55-74	36,6	36,7	37,0	-0,4
	15-64	72,8	72,9	72,9	-0,1

8.2 Labour force by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	2 650	2 646	2 613	1,4
	15-24	301	308	295	2,1
	25-54	1 870	1 864	1 860	0,6
	55-74	478	474	458	4,3
	15-64	2 615	2 611	2 581	1,3
Males	15-74	1 368	1 364	1 337	2,3
	15-24	147	149	145	1,0
	25-54	974	972	962	1,3
	55-74	247	243	230	7,3
	15-64	1 343	1 339	1 317	2,0
Females	15-74	1 282	1 283	1 276	0,5
	15-24	155	160	150	3,1
	25-54	896	892	898	-0,2
	55-74	231	231	228	1,2
	15-64	1 272	1 271	1 265	0,6

9.1 Employment rate by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	61,9	62,3	60,8	1,1
	15-24	37,9	40,5	35,8	2,2
	25-54	83,7	83,7	82,3	1,3
	55-74	37,2	36,8	36,1	1,0
	15-64	69,1	69,5	67,9	1,1
Males	15-74	64,0	64,3	62,3	1,8
	15-24	36,0	38,2	34,3	1,7
	25-54	86,2	86,3	84,1	2,1
	55-74	39,6	39,0	37,4	2,2
	15-64	70,3	70,7	68,6	1,7
Females	15-74	59,8	60,2	59,3	0,5
	15-24	39,9	43,0	37,3	2,6
	25-54	81,0	81,0	80,5	0,6
	55-74	34,8	34,7	34,9	-0,1
	15-64	67,8	68,2	67,3	0,5

9.2 Employed persons by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
	15-24	250	267	235	6,3
	25-54	1 771	1 772	1 750	1,2
	55-74	453	446	430	5,3
	15-64	2 440	2 450	2 383	2,4
Males	15-74	1 280	1 284	1 236	3,5
	15-24	121	128	115	5,3
	25-54	926	928	907	2,1
	55-74	233	228	214	8,6
	15-64	1 255	1 260	1 216	3,2
Females	15-74	1 194	1 201	1 179	1,3
	15-24	129	139	120	7,2
	25-54	845	844	843	0,3
	55-74	220	218	216	1,9
	15-64	1 184	1 190	1 167	1,5

9.3 Employed persons by status in employment 2008/I - 2007/I

Status in employment	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employed persons total	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
Self-employed persons and unpaid family workers	313	303	310	1,1
Employees	2 160	2 182	2 105	2,6
-salaried employees	1 432	1 422	1 392	2,9
-wage earners	722	755	711	1,6

9.4 Employed persons by industry (TOL 2002) 2008/I - 2007/I

Industry	TOL 2002	Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
All industries	01-99	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
A, B Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	01-05	107	109	105	2,1
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	01, 05	84	86	82	1,8
Forestry	02	24	23	23	3,1
C-E Manufacturing; electricity, gas and water supply; mining and quarrying	10-41	450	460	457	-1,5
Consumer goods industries	15-19	50	49	49	3,3
Manufacture of forest industry products and furniture	20-21, 361	73	74	72	1,5
Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	22	31	32	34	-9,8
Metal etc. industries	10-14, 27-35, 37	221	229	224	-1,5
Other manufacturing	23-26, 362-366, 40-41	75	77	77	-3,4
F Construction	45	171	177	155	10,2
Civil engineering	451, 45219, 4523, 4524	39	42	38	3,6
Construction of buildings; building installation and completion	45211, 4522, 4525, 453, 454, 455	132	134	117	12,4
G, H Trade; hotels and restaurants	50-55	390	394	376	3,7
G Trade	50-52	305	308	295	3,4
Sale of motor vehicles	501, 503, 504	25	23	22	12,2
Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and of personal or household goods	502, 505, 527	30	31	32	-4,8
Wholesale trade and commission trade	51	101	97	92	10,1
Retail trade, excl. motor vehicles	521-526	148	157	148	-0,4
H Hotels and restaurants	55	85	86	81	5,0
I Transport, storage and communication	60-64	172	179	170	1,2
Transport	60-63	129	134	125	2,7
Telecommunications	64	44	45	45	-3,1
J, K Financial intermediation; real estate, renting and business activities	65-74	363	365	339	6,8
J Financial intermediation; insurance	65-67	49	50	49	-0,4
Real estate, renting and industrial cleaning	70, 71, 747	79	73	69	14,4
Technical and business activities	72, 73, 741-746, 748	235	242	221	6,0
L-Q Public and other services	75-98	807	795	809	-0,2
L Public administration and defence	75	113	119	114	-0,7
M Education	80	169	167	171	-0,8
Health activities	851, 852	177	173	183	-3,7
Social work activities	853	202	193	194	4,1
Other service activities	90-98	146	143	147	-0,2
X Industry unknown	99	14	6	4	.

9.5 Hours actually worked of employed persons by industry (TOL 2002) 2008/I - 2007/I

Industry	TOL 2002	Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Million hours	Million hours	Million hours	Per cent (%)
All industries	01-99	1018,8	1069,3	1026,8	-0,8
A, B Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	01-05	49,3	54,9	51,2	-3,7
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	01, 05	39,3	44,9	41,1	-4,3
Forestry	02	9,9	10,0	10,0	-0,9
C-E Manufacturing; electricity, gas and water supply; mining and quarrying	10-41	196,2	208,0	206,6	-5,0
Consumer goods industries	15-19	21,6	22,3	20,1	7,8
Manufacture of forest industry products and furniture	20-21, 361	31,5	32,3	32,9	-4,3
Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	22	12,4	14,1	14,2	-12,5
Metal etc. industries	10-14, 27-35, 37	99,3	105,7	105,5	-5,9
Other manufacturing	23-26, 362-366, 40-41	31,3	33,6	33,9	-7,6
F Construction	45	74,4	82,3	71,1	4,7
Civil engineering	451, 45219, 4523, 4524	16,6	20,2	15,9	4,4
Construction of buildings; building installation and completion	45211, 4522, 4525, 453, 454, 455	57,9	62,1	55,3	4,8
G, H Trade; hotels and restaurants	50-55	160,0	166,2	156,3	2,4
G Trade	50-52	126,0	131,3	123,5	2,1
Sale of motor vehicles	501, 503, 504	11,7	11,0	10,4	12,5
Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and of personal or household goods	502, 505, 527	14,1	14,5	14,2	0,0
Wholesale trade and commission trade	51	44,6	44,3	41,8	6,5
Retail trade, excl. motor vehicles	521-526	55,6	61,5	57,0	-2,5
H Hotels and restaurants	55	34,0	34,9	32,8	3,4
I Transport, storage and communication	60-64	74,4	81,4	74,8	-0,4
Transport	60-63	58,8	64,1	57,5	2,3
Telecommunications	64	15,7	17,3	17,3	-9,4
J, K Financial intermediation; real estate, renting and business activities	65-74	152,6	154,9	144,9	5,3
J Financial intermediation; insurance	65-67	20,7	21,7	20,4	1,1
Real estate, renting and industrial cleaning	70, 71, 747	32,2	30,3	28,5	12,9
Technical and business activities	72, 73, 741-746, 748	99,7	102,9	96,0	3,9
L-Q Public and other services	75-98	306,7	319,2	319,9	-4,1
L Public administration and defence	75	46,2	50,9	48,3	-4,4
M Education	80	61,7	63,9	64,1	-3,7
Health activities	851, 852	66,6	69,4	73,1	-9,0
Social work activities	853	77,1	80,3	78,7	-2,0
Other service activities	90-98	55,1	54,8	55,8	-1,2
X Industry unknown	99	5,2	2,5	2,0	.

9.6 Employed persons by employer sector 2008/I - 2007/I

Employer sector	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employer sector total (incl. employer sector unknown)	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
Private sector	1 806	1 830	1 757	2,8
Public sector	658	650	655	0,3
-state	155	153	149	3,8
-municipality	503	497	506	-0,7

9.7 Employed persons by province 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Province				
Whole country (incl. Åland)	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
Southern Finland	1 094	1 100	1 056	3,6
Western Finland	859	872	842	2,0
Eastern Finland	229	229	233	-1,7
Oulu	202	199	196	2,9
Lapland	74	72	73	1,6

9.8 Employed persons by region 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Region				
Whole country (incl. Åland)	2 474	2 485	2 415	2,4
Uusimaa	742	741	716	3,6
Itä-Uusimaa	48	47	46	3,9
Varsinais-Suomi	223	220	213	4,7
Satakunta	102	102	100	1,8
Kanta-Häme	81	80	75	8,2
Pirkanmaa	220	228	217	1,2
Päijät-Häme	88	90	88	-0,3
Kymenlaakso	78	81	76	1,8
South Karelia	58	60	54	6,6
Etelä-Savo	62	63	66	-6,0
Pohjois-Savo	103	101	101	1,8
North Karelia	64	64	66	-2,7
Central Finland	113	120	115	-2,1
South Ostrobothnia	86	87	84	2,3
Ostrobothnia	83	84	83	0,7
Central Ostrobothnia	32	32	30	8,0
North Ostrobothnia	170	168	166	2,6
Kainuu	32	31	30	4,3
Lapland	74	72	73	1,6

9.9 Proportion of part-time employed persons in all employed persons by sex 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex				
Both sexes	14,3	15,1	14,7	-0,5
Males	9,5	9,9	9,8	-0,4
Females	19,4	20,7	19,8	-0,5

9.10 Part-time employed persons by sex 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex				
Both sexes	353	375	355	-0,8
Males	121	127	122	-0,2
Females	231	248	234	-1,0

10.1 Employees by industry (TOL 2002) 2008/I - 2007/I

	TOL 2002	Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Industry	TOL 2002				
All industries	01-99	2 160	2 182	2 105	2,6
A, B Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	01-05	30	32	27	7,8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	01, 05	14	16	13	9,2
Forestry	02	16	17	15	6,6
C-E Manufacturing; electricity, gas and water supply; mining and quarrying	10-41	425	436	431	-1,2
Consumer goods industries	15-19	44	45	43	1,5
Manufacture of forest industry products and furniture	20-21, 361	69	67	68	0,8
Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	22	29	30	31	-6,3
Metal etc. industries	10-14, 27-35, 37	212	219	213	-0,6
Other manufacturing	23-26, 362-366, 40-41	72	74	75	-4,4
F Construction	45	130	139	116	11,9
Civil engineering	451, 45219, 4523, 4524	33	35	29	11,1
Construction of buildings; building installation and completion	45211, 4522, 4525, 453, 454, 455	97	104	87	12,2
G, H Trade; hotels and restaurants	50-55	340	342	321	5,8
G Trade	50-52	264	268	250	5,7
Sale of motor vehicles	501, 503, 504	21	19	19	14,2
Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and of personal or household goods	502, 505, 527	22	24	23	-4,6
Wholesale trade and commission trade	51	90	87	80	12,7
Retail trade, excl. motor vehicles	521-526	130	138	128	1,9
H Hotels and restaurants	55	75	75	71	6,2
I Transport, storage and communication	60-64	152	158	150	1,3
Transport	60-63	109	114	106	2,7
Telecommunications	64	44	44	44	-2,1
J, K Financial intermediation; real estate, renting and business activities	65-74	315	317	295	6,5
J Financial intermediation; insurance	65-67	47	48	48	-1,8
Real estate, renting and industrial cleaning	70, 71, 747	69	65	61	13,6
Technical and business activities	72, 73, 741-746, 748	198	203	186	6,4
L-Q Public and other services	75-98	756	751	760	-0,6
L Public administration and defence	75	113	119	114	-0,7
M Education	80	167	165	168	-0,5
Health activities	851, 852	165	164	174	-5,2
Social work activities	853	195	187	189	3,1
Other service activities	90-98	115	117	115	0,5
X Industry unknown	99	13	6	4	.

10.2 Hours actually worked of employees by industry (TOL 2002) 2008/I - 2007/I

	TOL 2002	Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Million hours	Million hours	Million hours	Per cent (%)
Industry					
All industries	01-99	870,2	916,6	875,0	-0,6
A, B Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	01-05	13,6	15,4	12,9	4,9
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	01, 05	6,4	7,8	6,2	3,3
Forestry	02	7,2	7,6	6,8	6,4
C-E Manufacturing; electricity, gas and water supply; mining and quarrying	10-41	184,1	195,2	193,9	-5,0
Consumer goods industries	15-19	18,6	20,2	17,7	5,2
Manufacture of forest industry products and furniture	20-21, 361	29,0	29,0	30,5	-4,9
Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	22	11,6	13,4	13,0	-10,8
Metal etc. industries	10-14, 27-35, 37	94,7	99,9	99,5	-4,9
Other manufacturing	23-26, 362-366, 40-41	30,2	32,8	33,1	-8,9
F Construction	45	54,8	63,5	51,1	7,2
Civil engineering	451, 45219, 4523, 4524	13,6	16,4	12,0	13,5
Construction of buildings; building installation and completion	45211, 4522, 4525, 453, 454, 455	41,2	47,1	39,2	5,3
G, H Trade; hotels and restaurants	50-55	133,5	138,2	127,4	4,8
G Trade	50-52	105,4	109,9	101,4	3,9
Sale of motor vehicles	501, 503, 504	9,6	9,0	8,4	14,9
Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and of personal or household goods	502, 505, 527	10,0	10,8	9,8	2,0
Wholesale trade and commission trade	51	38,9	39,2	36,5	6,5
Retail trade, excl. motor vehicles	521-526	46,8	51,0	46,6	0,4
H Hotels and restaurants	55	28,1	28,3	26,0	8,3
I Transport, storage and communication	60-64	62,6	68,8	63,3	-1,1
Transport	60-63	47,1	51,5	46,3	1,6
Telecommunications	64	15,6	17,3	17,0	-8,3
J, K Financial intermediation; real estate, renting and business activities	65-74	131,6	132,8	124,6	5,6
J Financial intermediation; insurance	65-67	19,9	20,7	19,7	1,0
Real estate, renting and industrial cleaning	70, 71, 747	27,9	26,4	24,8	12,8
Technical and business activities	72, 73, 741-746, 748	83,8	85,7	80,2	4,5
L-Q Public and other services	75-98	285,1	300,4	300,1	-5,0
L Public administration and defence	75	46,1	50,9	48,3	-4,5
M Education	80	60,5	62,6	63,1	-4,1
Health activities	851, 852	62,6	65,7	69,6	-10,0
Social work activities	853	73,3	76,7	76,2	-3,9
Other service activities	90-98	42,7	44,4	42,9	-0,6
X Industry unknown	99	4,9	2,3	1,8	.

10.3 Employees by type of employment relationship (%) 2008/I - 2007/I

Employment relationship	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Employees total	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0
-permanent full-time job	77,2	75,7	75,8	1,4
-permanent part-time job	9,9	10,2	10,0	-0,1
-fixed-term full-time job	9,2	9,8	10,2	-1,0
-fixed-term part-time job	3,7	4,3	4,0	-0,3
Fixed-term job total	12,9	14,1	14,2	-1,3
Part-time job total	13,6	14,5	14,0	-0,4

10.4 Employees by type of employment relationship 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employment relationship				
Employees total	2 160	2 182	2 105	2,6
-permanent full-time job	1 667	1 651	1 595	4,5
-permanent part-time job	214	223	211	1,3
-fixed-term full-time job	199	215	215	-7,4
-fixed-term part-time job	80	94	84	-4,6
Fixed-term job total	279	308	299	-6,6
Part-time job total	294	316	295	-0,4

10.5 Different types of employment relationships less than 12 month's duration (%) 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Employment relationship				
Employees total	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0
-permanent full-time job	43,1	41,7	41,2	1,9
-permanent part-time job	13,9	13,7	13,0	0,9
-fixed-term full-time job	30,0	29,8	31,9	-1,9
-fixed-term part-time job	13,0	14,7	13,9	-0,9
Fixed-term job total	43,0	44,5	45,8	-2,8
Part-time job total	26,9	28,4	26,8	0,0

10.6 Different types of employment relationships less than 12 month's duration 2008/I - 2007/I

	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Employment relationship				
Employees total	427	459	403	5,9
-permanent full-time job	184	191	166	10,8
-permanent part-time job	59	63	52	13,3
-fixed-term full-time job	128	137	129	-0,5
-fixed-term part-time job	55	68	56	-0,9
Fixed-term job total	183	204	185	-0,7
Part-time job total	115	130	108	6,0

11.1 Unemployment rate by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	6,6	6,1	7,6	-0,9
	15-24	17,1	13,4	20,4	-3,3
	25-54	5,3	4,9	5,9	-0,6
	55-74	5,3	5,9	6,2	-0,9
	15-64	6,7	6,2	7,7	-1,0
Males	15-74	6,4	5,9	7,5	-1,1
	15-24	17,4	13,7	20,8	-3,4
	25-54	4,9	4,5	5,7	-0,7
	55-74	5,7	6,4	6,9	-1,1
	15-64	6,5	5,9	7,6	-1,1
Females	15-74	6,9	6,3	7,6	-0,8
	15-24	16,8	13,1	20,0	-3,2
	25-54	5,7	5,4	6,1	-0,4
	55-74	4,8	5,4	5,5	-0,7
	15-64	6,9	6,4	7,7	-0,8

11.2 Unemployed persons by sex and age 2008/I - 2007/I

		Year/Quarter			Change
		2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
		1000 persons	1000 persons	1000 persons	Per cent (%)
Sex	Age group				
Both sexes	15-74	176	161	198	-11,2
	15-24	52	41	60	-14,3
	25-54	99	92	110	-9,5
	55-74	25	28	28	-11,1
	15-64	176	161	198	-11,4
Males	15-74	88	80	101	-12,7
	15-24	26	20	30	-15,3
	25-54	48	44	55	-11,8
	55-74	14	16	16	-10,6
	15-64	88	80	101	-12,9
Females	15-74	88	81	98	-9,7
	15-24	26	21	30	-13,4
	25-54	51	48	55	-7,2
	55-74	11	12	13	-11,7
	15-64	88	81	98	-9,8

11.3 Unemployment rate by province 2008/I - 2007/I

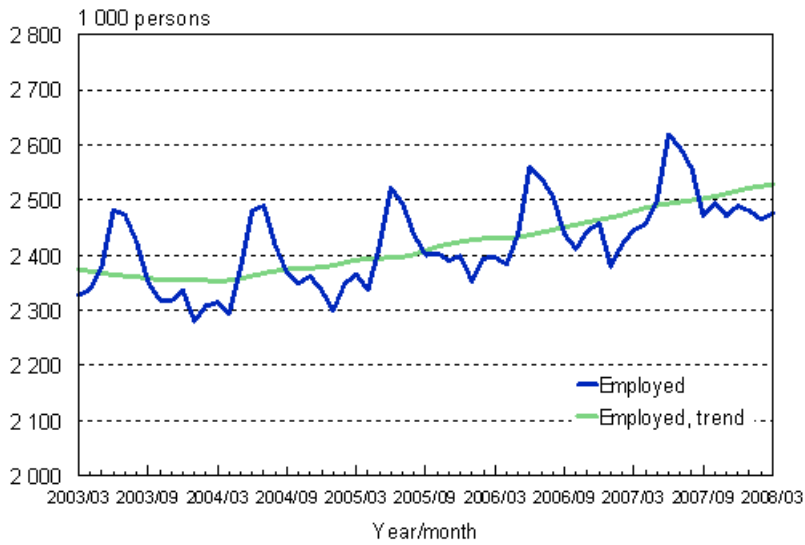
Province	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Whole country (incl. Åland)	6,6	6,1	7,6	-0,9
Southern Finland	5,3	4,5	6,5	-1,2
Western Finland	6,4	5,9	7,2	-0,8
Eastern Finland	10,8	10,0	10,8	0,0
Oulu	8,6	8,8	9,8	-1,2
Lapland	10,2	12,0	11,0	-0,8

11.4 Unemployment rate by region 2008/I - 2007/I

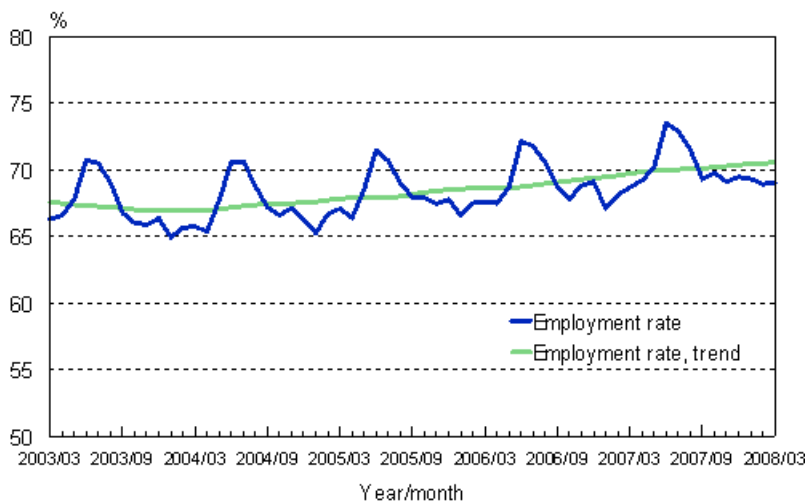
Region	Year/Quarter			Change
	2008/I	2007/IV	2007/I	2008/I - 2007/I
	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Per cent (%)	Percentage points (%)
Whole country (incl. Åland)	6,6	6,1	7,6	-0,9
Uusimaa	4,8	4,3	5,9	-1,2
Itä-Uusimaa	2,4	2,6	2,9	-0,5
Varsinais-Suomi	5,2	5,4	7,7	-2,5
Satakunta	6,1	6,6	7,0	-0,9
Kanta-Häme	5,4	5,6	7,3	-1,8
Pirkanmaa	6,9	5,8	7,0	-0,1
Päijät-Häme	7,1	4,4	7,8	-0,7
Kymenlaakso	10,1	6,5	8,6	1,5
South Karelia	5,1	5,3	10,7	-5,6
Etelä-Savo	10,5	8,4	9,8	0,7
Pohjois-Savo	9,2	9,9	9,3	-0,1
North Karelia	13,4	11,8	13,9	-0,5
Central Finland	9,3	8,1	9,1	0,2
South Ostrobothnia	5,8	6,0	7,2	-1,4
Ostrobothnia	5,5	3,3	3,9	1,6
Central Ostrobothnia	6,2	4,8	7,8	-1,6
North Ostrobothnia	7,7	7,0	8,5	-0,8
Kainuu	13,6	17,3	16,3	-2,7
Lapland	10,2	12,0	11,0	-0,8

Figures

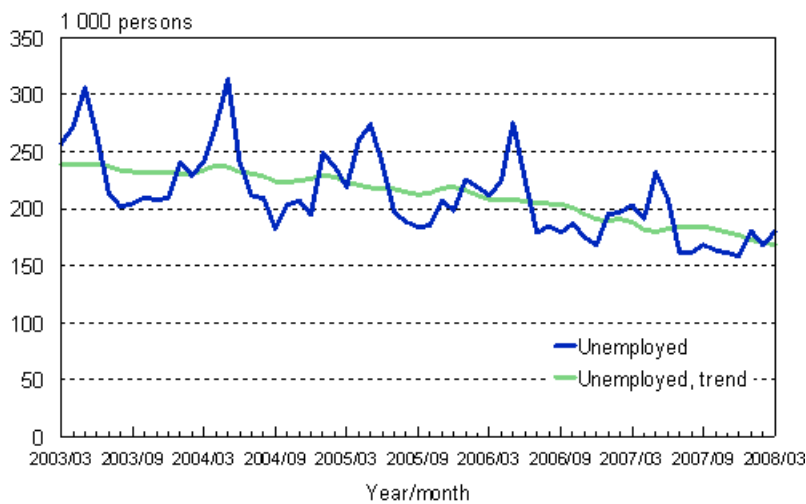
1.1 Employed persons, trend and original series



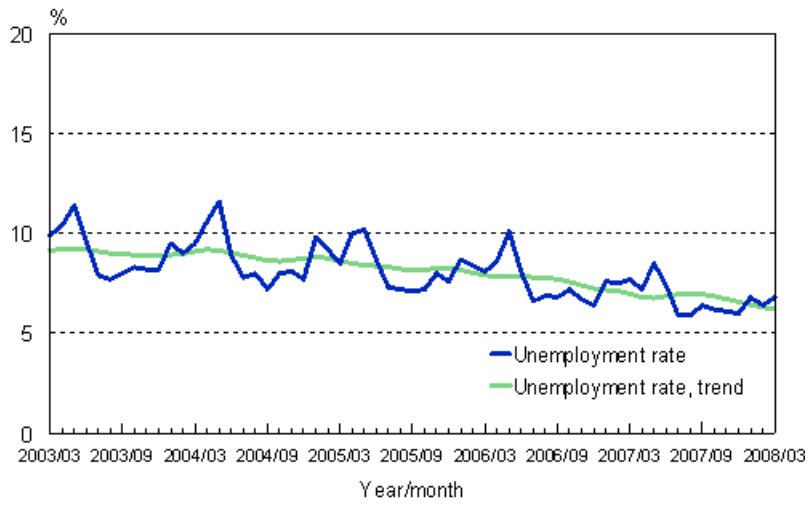
1.2 Employment rate, trend and original series



2.1 Unemployed persons, trend and original series



2.2 Unemployment rate, trend and original series



Quality Description: Labour force survey

1. Relevance of statistical information

The Labour Force Survey is a sample survey providing monthly, quarterly and annual statistics on participation in the labour market, employment, unemployment and working hours among the population aged between 15 and 74. Approximately 12,000 persons are interviewed each month about their labour market activities during one week. Based on the information given by the respondents, the survey provides an up-to-date and comprehensive picture of the labour force and changes in the labour market.

The results of the survey are used, inter alia, in preparing labour market projections and plans, as support for decision-making and in the follow-up of the employment effects of different measures. Key users of the results are ministries, authorities responsible for regional planning, employers' and employees' organisations, universities and research institutions, international organisations and the European Union. Statistics Finland uses the data, inter alia, in the compilation of the National Accounts. Public attention focuses each month especially on the changes in unemployment and employment from the corresponding month in the previous year.

The current data content of the Labour Force Survey is based mainly on the EU Regulation on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community (Council Regulations No 577/98, 2257/2003 and 430/2005). More detailed information on the European Union Labour Force Survey is available at http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/index.htm.

The Labour Force Survey mainly describes persons. Since 2003, information is obtained from a sub sample also on the structure of households and the activities of all working-age members of a household with regard to the labour market. Since 1999 a unified EU ad hoc- survey with annually changing topics has been conducted in connection with the Labour Force Survey.

The concepts and definitions used in the survey follow the recommendations of ILO, the International Labour Organisation of the UN, and the regulations of Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. In the basic classification of the labour market situation, the population is divided into the employed, the unemployed and the economically inactive.

Definitions:

- A person is **employed** if he/she has during the survey week been in gainful employment at least one hour against wages or salary or fringe benefits, or to make profit, or has been temporarily absent from work. Persons absent from work during the survey week are classified as employed if (1) the reason for absence is maternity or paternity leave or (2) the absence has lasted less than three months or (3) he/she is paid a wage or salary or earnings-related benefit amounting to at least one-half of his/her normal wage or salary. (Points 2 and 3 were revised as from the beginning of 2008) The employed are divided into wage and salary earners, entrepreneurs and unpaid workers in a family member's enterprise.
- A person is **unemployed** if he/she is without work during the survey week, has actively sought employment in the past four weeks as a wage or salary earner or entrepreneur and would be available for work within two weeks. A person who is without work and waiting for an agreed job to start within three months is also classified as unemployed, if he/she could start work within two weeks. Persons laid off for the time being who fulfil the above-mentioned criteria on job seeking and availability for work are also classified as unemployed.
- The **labour force** comprises all persons aged between 15 and 74 who are employed or unemployed during the survey week.
- The **economically inactive population** consists of persons who are not employed or unemployed during the survey week. The economically inactive can also be described with the concept persons outside the labour force. For information on the other concepts used in the Labour Force Survey see: http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/tyti/kas_en.html.

Statistical classifications used in the Labour Force Survey include the Standard Industrial Classification (TOL 2002, ISIC REV 3.1), the Classification of Occupations 2001 (ISCO-88) and the Classification of Occupations 1987, the Classification of Socio-economic Groups 1989, the Classification of Education 1997 (ISCED 1997) as well as the regional classifications Major Region, Province, Region and Employment and Economic Development Centre.

2. Methodological description of the statistical survey

The population of the Labour Force Survey consists of persons aged between 15 and 74 who are permanent residents of Finland. The population includes also persons residing abroad temporarily (less than a year) as well as foreign nationals registered in the Finnish Population Information System who will reside in Finland at least one year (<http://www.vaestorekisterikeskus.fi/vrk/home.nsf/www/populationinformationsystem>). Information is delivered to Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, also on persons younger than 15 and aged 75 or older (who are not interviewed). In the survey, age is determined on the basis of real age at the time of the interview. Hence a 14-year-old can belong to the sample but is included only after he/she has turned 15. Correspondingly the most aged persons are left out of the survey when they turn 75.

The sample of the Labour Force Survey is drawn twice a year as a stratified random sample from the Statistics Finland population database, which is based on the central population register. The survey is a panel survey in which one person is interviewed five times. The interviews are conducted every three months apart from the fourth interview, which is conducted six months after the third interview. The first and last interviews are 15 months apart. The sample in each month consists approximately of 12,000 persons, which is, on average, every 300th person from the population. The sample consists of five rotation groups which have joined the survey in different months. The sample changes gradually so that different persons answer the questions during three consecutive months. In consecutive quarters three-fifths of the respondents are the same. In consecutive years the overlap is two fifths.

Statistics Finland's interviewers collect the data with computer-assisted telephone interviews. In 2007 approximately 115,000 interviews were conducted. The non-response rate of the survey was 20.2 per cent on average.

The results from the sample are weighted to correspond to the entire population aged between 15 and 74. The effects of non-response on the results are corrected by using so called weight calibration, in which weighting is used to produce the correct population distributions by region, gender and age. Information of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy's job seeker register is also used as supplementary data.

The figures published in the Labour Force Survey, as figures collected with any sample survey, are so-called estimates. An estimate is an estimation of a quality of the population derived by applying a mathematical operation (estimation) to sample observations. For example, the number of the unemployed in 2008, which was 181,000 persons, is an estimate of the number of unemployed persons aged between 15 and 74 resulting from such a procedure.

Quarterly and annual estimates are averages of monthly estimates. Working days and working hours are estimated on the basis of the number of calendar days in the relevant month. Quarterly and annual estimates of working days and working hours are sums of monthly estimates.

The employment and unemployment numbers in the Labour Force Survey vary relatively regularly in different months of the year. Variation which occurs annually in similar ways has been removed from the so-called trends which are also published from the Labour Force Survey. The direction of long-term developments and cyclical variations are easier to see from a trend than from unadjusted monthly data. Due to the method used, the last data of the trend are revised somewhat when the data of the following month are inserted into the series. This preliminary nature of trends must be taken into account when drawing conclusions. As from June 2007, the trend components of the time series are calculated with the Tramo/Seats method recommended by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

The reliability of the estimates of the Labour Force Survey is affected by non-response (see above), measurement error and random variation due to sampling.

Measurement errors arise, inter alia, due to the fact that questions can be understood or interpreted differently and respondents may not report some information. Developing the questionnaire and training the interviewers are measures used to contain measurement errors.

Random variation due to sampling means that figures calculated from different samples differ somewhat from each other. When evaluating roughly the magnitude of random variation due to sampling in different situations, the main principle is that **1) the larger the sample is from which the figures are calculated and 2) the larger the population described by the figures is, the less uncertainty due to sampling there will be in the figures.** For instance, quarterly figures are more accurate than monthly figures describing the same phenomenon, as quarterly data have been collected by interviewing thrice the number of persons than the monthly data. Annual figures are the most accurate. The second principle means that the figures of the employed and the unemployed, that is the estimates, based on a sample of the same size are the more accurate the larger the subgroup they apply to. As the relevant subgroup becomes smaller, random variation due to sampling increases. Therefore e.g. the numbers of the unemployed in different age groups or in different regions are not as reliable as the number of all the unemployed.

Inaccuracy due to sampling is assessed with the standard error of the estimate. The magnitude of the standard error is influenced by the size of the sample and the variance of the variable being investigated. Standard error can be used to calculate the **confidence interval**, within which the value of the population lies with a certain probability. The **95 per cent confidence interval** used in the Labour Force Survey **is the interval within which the real value of the property being investigated lies with a probability of 95 per cent.** For example, the confidence interval of the number of the unemployed in January 2008 is $181,000 \pm 15,000$, i.e. 166,000-196,000. The share to be added to the estimate or deducted from it, in this case 15,000, is obtained by multiplying the estimate's standard error, here 7,500 persons, with the coefficient of the 95 per cent confidence interval.

Examples of the accuracy of the number of the employed and the unemployed by size of subgroup

To illustrate the magnitude of random variation, examples of the estimates of different numbers of the employed and the unemployed, their 95 per cent confidence intervals and other key figures of reliability are presented in the following tables 1-3. The magnitude of random variation in the examples is a rough estimate of the upper boundary of random variation, when the figure being investigated is **a correspondingly large estimate of the number of the employed or the unemployed by gender, age or region.** In correspondingly large subgroups by industry, the confidence interval is wider. The examples in table 1 refer to monthly estimates. Tables 2-3 include the corresponding data for quarterly and annual estimates.

Table 1. Examples of the accuracy of monthly estimates of different sizes: the numbers of the employed and the unemployed by gender, age and region.¹⁾

	Monthly estimate	Monthly estimate's 95% confidence interval	Standard error	Relative standard error
	persons	persons	persons	%
Employed	2 400 000	± 27 800	14 200	0,6
	1 200 000	± 21 000	10 700	0,9
	600 000	± 15 300	7 800	1,3
	300 000	± 11 600	5 900	2,0
	100 000	± 6 700	3 400	3,4
	50 000	± 4 700	2 400	4,8
	10 000	± 2 900	1 500	15,0
Unemployed	230 000	± 15 100	7 700	3,3
	120 000	± 11 800	6 000	5,0
	90 000	± 10 800	5 500	6,1
	60 000	± 9 000	4 600	7,7
	30 000	± 6 900	3 500	11,7
	20 000	± 5 100	2 600	13,0
	10 000	± 3 700	1 900	19,0

1) The data can be used as indicative estimates of the accuracy of comparable numbers of the employed and unemployed by gender, age and region.

We can see from table 1 that if the monthly estimate of the employed in the subgroup is 300,000 persons, the real number of the employed lies, with a probability of 95 per cent, within the range $300,000 \pm 11,600$ persons. The size of this confidence interval relative to the size of the estimate is clearly larger than the corresponding share in the large estimate on the first row of the table. For estimates of less than 300,000 persons the confidence intervals are relatively even wider.

A comparison of data in tables 1–3 illustrates also that annual and quarterly data are more accurate than monthly data. The 95 per cent confidence interval corresponding to the estimate of the employed in a subgroup of 300,000 persons examined above, that is $300,000 \pm 6,700$ persons (table 2), is clearly narrower than the confidence interval of the monthly estimate. Annual estimates are even more accurate than quarterly estimates (table 3). This difference in accuracy is, however, not as large as the corresponding difference between monthly and quarterly data.

Table 2. Examples of the accuracy of quarterly estimates of different sizes: the numbers of the employed and the unemployed by gender, age and region.¹⁾

	Quarterly estimate	Quarterly estimate's 95% confidence interval	Standard error	Relative standard error
	persons	persons	persons	%
Employed	2 400 000	± 16 100	8 200	0,3
	1 200 000	± 12 500	6 400	0,5
	600 000	± 8 800	4 500	0,8
	300 000	± 6 700	3 400	1,1
	100 000	± 4 700	2 400	2,4
	50 000	± 3 900	2 000	4,0
	10 000	± 2 000	1 000	10,0
Unemployed	230 000	± 8 800	4 500	2,0
	120 000	± 6 900	3 500	2,9
	90 000	± 6 100	3 100	3,4
	60 000	± 5 100	2 600	4,3
	30 000	± 3 500	1 800	6,0
	20 000	± 3 100	1 600	8,0
	10 000	± 2 400	1 200	12,0

1) The data can be used as indicative estimates of the accuracy of comparable numbers of the employed and unemployed by gender, age and region.

Table 3. Examples of the accuracy of annual estimates of different sizes: the numbers of the employed and the unemployed by gender, age and region.¹⁾

	Annual estimate	Annual estimate's 95% confidence interval	Standard error	Relative standard error
	persons	persons	persons	%
Employed	2 400 000	± 15 700	8 000	0,3
	1 200 000	± 11 400	5 800	0,5
	600 000	± 7 800	4 000	0,7
	300 000	± 6 100	3 100	1,0
	100 000	± 3 300	1 700	1,7
	50 000	± 2 500	1 300	2,6
	10 000	± 800	400	4,0
Unemployed	230 000	± 7 100	3 600	1,6
	120 000	± 5 700	2 900	2,4
	90 000	± 4 500	2 300	2,6
	60 000	± 3 500	1 800	3,0
	30 000	± 2 400	1 200	4,0
	20 000	± 2 000	1 000	5,0
	10 000	± 1 600	800	8,0

1) The data can be used as indicative estimates of the accuracy of comparable numbers of the employed and unemployed by gender, age and region.

Statistical description of the reliability of estimation

The estimation procedure of the Labour Force Survey is based on the calibration of weights in which the original sample weights calculated on the basis of the sample design are adjusted with a regression model to get the desired population distributions.

The accuracy of estimates is evaluated on the basis of their standard error. **Standard error** (the square root of the sample variance) describes how neatly the value of the parameter estimated from the observations is concentrated around the parameter of the population. The magnitude of the standard error is affected by sample design, the number of observations in the relevant population or subgroup, variation due to the distribution of the research variable as well as properties of the mathematical formula.

Key figures of reliability derived from the standard error are the confidence intervals and relative standard error. **Confidence interval** describes the width of the range in which the real value of the parameter is relative to the estimate calculated from the sample. When calculating the confidence interval, the desired level of risk is fixed. The 5 per cent risk level applied in the Labour Force Survey means that if the samples were drawn again, in 95 cases out of one hundred the real value of the parameter would be within the confidence interval and in 5 cases out of one hundred it would be outside the confidence interval.

Relative standard error (coefficient of variation) is the percentage share of the standard error of the estimate. Proportioning the standard error to the estimate's size removes the effect of the scale of the variable. Hence the values of the relative standard error of different variables and the values of the standard error of the same variable in different subgroups are easy to compare with one another.

In the monthly and quarterly data of the Labour Force Survey, the estimator of the standard error is the variance estimator of the generalised regression estimator (GREG). The statistical accuracy of the annual estimates and its evaluation is also affected by the fact that the sample of the Labour Force Survey changes gradually during the year. In consecutive quarters 60 per cent of the respondents are the same. During one year 90 per cent of the interviewees have been interviewed at least twice. The responses given by the same persons in different interviews during the year correlate to one another if the person's labour market status does not change between interviews. To account for this correlation in variance estimation, the Labour Force Survey uses an approximation of single stage cluster sampling in which a within-cluster variance is calculated for persons interviewed several times during the year. Clusters are formed on the basis of interviewee's age. Within-cluster variance is zero if the interviewee's labour market status does not change during the year between different interviews.

For example, the standard error calculated for annual estimate of the unemployed in a subgroup of 230,000 persons is 3,600 persons and the confidence interval is $230,000 \pm 7,100$ persons. If the interviews on which the annual estimate is based had all been with different persons, the standard error of the estimate of the unemployed had been 2,300 persons and the confidence interval $230,000 \pm 4,500$ persons. Interviewing the same persons again in different quarters of the year explains why the difference in the accuracy of the annual and quarterly data of the Labour Force Survey is not as big as could be expected on the basis of the number of interviews conducted.

4. Timeliness and promptness of published data

The results of the Labour Force Survey are released monthly, quarterly and annually. Quarterly and annual results are the averages of monthly results, i.e. they describe the situation on an "average" week during the survey period. Data on labour input are sums of the results of periods. The released data are final. Only seasonal adjustment slightly alters the latest seasonally adjusted monthly results.

Monthly data are released approximately three weeks from the end of the survey month. Quarterly data are released simultaneously with the last monthly data of each quarter. Quarterly data are statistically more reliable than monthly data and contain more detailed data, inter alia, employment and labour input by industry and more specific regional data. Quarterly deliveries of data are made to the EU, which are used to compile statistics on EU Member States. The most detailed data are released in the annual statistics which is finalised approximately six months from the end of the survey year.

5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

The results of the Labour Force Survey are published in the Labour market series of the Official Statistics of Finland. The key monthly and quarterly results are released on predefined days in the Internet on the home page of the Labour Force Survey http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/tyti/index_en. The links on the home page lead, among other things, to a description of the statistics, concepts and definitions as well as the free of charge tables from the statistical databases of the Labour Force Survey (StatFin). Data are available over the Internet also from Statistics Finland's chargeable time series database (ASTIKA).

The annual publication of the labour force statistics contains a description of survey methodology, definitions of key concepts, descriptions of classifications used as well as the survey questionnaire. The tables of the annual publication are available also in electronic form. Statistics on the education of the labour force and occupational structure are published every other year also in the OSF Labour market series. In addition, Labour Force Survey data are published regularly in the Statistical Yearbook of Finland and the Bulletin of Statistics. Chargeable special compilations can be requested from the Labour Force Survey's information service.

Labour Force Survey data are not released outside Statistics Finland in identifiable form (Statistics Act 280/2004, Personal Data Act 523/1999). Data can only be released for purposes of scientific research and statistical study on the basis of a specific authorised permission and all the identifiers must be removed from it. The data files for the EU Labour Force Survey are delivered to Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, without identifiers. Labour Force Survey data are protected according to the protection class defined in Statistics Finland's data protection guidelines.

Information service: tyovoimatutkimus@stat.fi and tel. +358 9 1734 2030.

6. Comparability of statistics

A monthly Labour Force Survey has been conducted since 1959. During this time the data content, data collection methods and methodology have been revised on several occasions. A comparable time series of the key data exists since 1989.

In the beginning, the survey with more limited data content was conducted as a postal inquiry. In 1976 the data contents expanded and methodology was modernised. During 1977–1993 the survey consisted of a monthly inquiry and supplementary annual interviews conducted over the telephone. The data collection of the monthly inquiry was changed in 1983 from a postal inquiry to a telephone interview, as a result of which non-response dropped from 30 to 4 per cent.

When Finland joined the European Union, the Labour Force Survey was harmonised with the EU Labour Force Survey. In the beginning, during 1995-1998, the EU Labour Force Survey data were collected as a separate interview survey in the spring. The monthly survey was gradually revised to correspond to the EU Labour Force Survey. In 1997 the data content of the monthly survey was extended, the data collection became a computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) and the concepts and definitions were harmonised to match the guidelines and recommendations of the European Union and the UN's International Labour Organization (ILO) better than before. The definition of an unemployed person was revised in May 1998 and the published time series were revised to correspond with the new definitions retroactively as from 1989 onwards.

In April 1999 the Labour Force Survey's data content extended again with the combining of the monthly survey and the EU Labour Force Survey into a single continuous Labour Force Survey. As from the beginning of the year 2000 the survey changed over into a continuous survey week, whereas previously data for each month had been collected on one survey week. This change-over affected data on working days and hours worked, which are not entirely comparable with earlier data as from the year 2000 onwards. As from the year 2003 the data content of the survey extended with the so-called household module, which is collected from a subsample.

As from the beginning of 2008 the data collection method and data content of the survey were revised, and the definitions of key concepts were made more accurate in accordance with the amendments of the EU regulations. (see http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/tyti/tyti_2008-02-19_men_001_en.html). These changes are expected to have only a small effect on key results.

7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity

In addition to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Finland's statistics related to the labour market include the Job vacancy survey, the Quality of working life survey, statistics on labour disputes, statistics on accidents at work as well as an annual register-based employment statistics (RES).

Of these the RES provides data on the labour market activities of the population (http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/tyokay/index_en.html). Its data differ from those of the Labour Force Survey due to data collection methods and definitions of the employed and the unemployed. The RES is based on total data derived from the administrative data of different authorities. The RES data on a person's activities refer mainly to the last week in the year. Data on unemployment is based on the Ministry of Employment and the Economy's register of unemployed job seekers. The statistics are finalised in a good 1 ½ years, preliminary data are ready after roughly one year. Since employment statistics are total data, they offer better regional data (also data on municipalities) as well as better data on small population groups, e.g. small industries and occupations than the Labour Force Survey. The concepts of the employment statistics based on administrative registers are not internationally comparable.

Statistics Finland uses the Labour Force Survey data in the compilation of National Accounts. Because of this, among other things, the definitions of the key concepts in the Labour Force Survey such as population, employment, working hours, follow as closely as possible the recommendations of the national accounts (the UN System of National Accounts, SNA, and the European System of Accounts, ESA). The definition of the public sector used in the Labour Force Survey is somewhat different from the sectoral classification of the national accounts. In national accounts, conscripts are classified as employed, according to the ILO recommendation, whereas in the Labour Force Survey, conscripts are regarded as economically inactive.

The results of the Finnish Labour Force Survey published by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, differ from those published in Finland in that conscripts are not included in the Eurostat data. In most EU countries conscripts are not included in the target group of the Labour Force Survey, i.e. the so-called household population. This causes differences especially in the results concerning the 15 to 24-year-olds.

The Ministry of Employment and the Economy also publishes data on unemployed job seekers. The Ministry's data are based on the register based Employment Service Statistics, which describe the last working day of the month. The definition of unemployed applied in the Employment Service Statistics is based on legislation and administrative orders which make the statistical data internationally incomparable. In the Employment Service Statistics an unemployed person is not expected to seek work as actively as in the Labour Force Survey. There are differences also in the acceptance of students as unemployed.

Suomen virallinen tilasto
Finlands officiella statistik
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Labour Market 2008

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