



Recent Statistical Survey Reports

January 2005

[Tuesday, December 28 – Tuesday, February 1]

Statistical Survey Reports

Report on Situation of Foreign Employees (June 2004)

Tuesday, December 28, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The number of foreign employees (both directly and indirectly employed) was 312,402.

Survey on Situation of Official Job Offer for New Graduates in Mar. 2005 (Senior and Junior High School) (As of the End of November)

Wednesday, January 12, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The ratio of active job openings to applicants for final-year senior high school students was 1.15, increased by 0.21 points from a year earlier. The number of final-year senior high school students with official job offer was 131 thousand, increased by 8.6% from a year earlier. The ratio of students receiving official job offer was 67.7%, increased by 6.3 points.

The ratio of active job openings to applicants for final-year junior high school students was 0.45, increased by 0.11 points from a year earlier.

Survey on Situation of Official Job Offer for New Graduates in Mar. 2005 (University, etc.) (As of December 1)

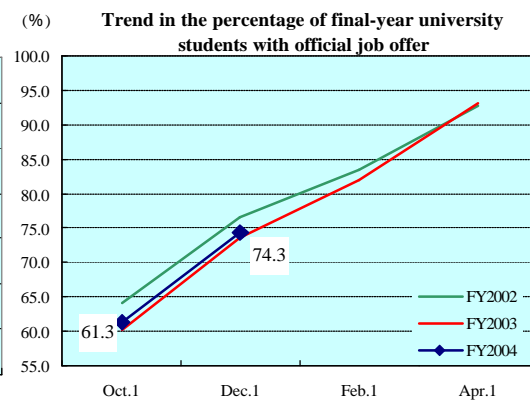
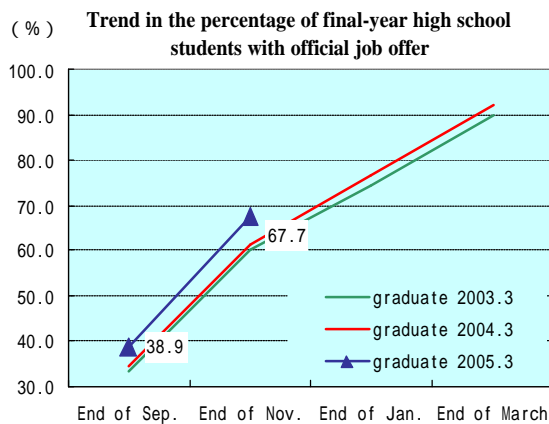
Wednesday, January 12, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The ratio of final-year university students with official job offer to applicants for entering employment was 74.3%, increased by 0.8points from a year earlier.

That of final-year junior college students (female only) was 49.2%, decreased by 0.4 points.

That of final-year technological college students (male only) was 100.0%, increased by 1.7 points.

That of final-year vocational school students was 53.5%, increased by 0.4 points.



Survey on Wage Increase (2004)

Thursday, January 13, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The ratio of enterprises that planned to increase average wages per employees was 69.8% (up by 7.1 points from a year earlier), while 3.4% of enterprises, down 3.8 points compared to the previous year, lowered them.

The average amount of revised wage was 3,751 yen based on weighted average of regular workers, and the average revised ratio was 1.3%. The amount increased for the first time in 8 years from a year earlier while rate increased for the first time in 14 years.

National Survey on Single-parent Household (FY2003)

Wednesday, January 19, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

83.0% of single-mother household took on a job in FY2003 and 49.0% of their status in employment was "temporarily employee or part-time worker" followed by "regular employee" (39.2%).

In 2002, the average annual wage of a single-mother household was 2.12 million yen while that of a single-father household was 3.90 million yen.

Indices of Industrial Production (Preliminary Report for December)

Friday, January 28, released by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

The index of industrial production (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 1.2% from the previous month, falling for the first time in 2 months.

The index is expected to increase in January and decrease in February.

Consumer Price Index (December and 2004)

Friday, January 28, released by Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs,

Posts and Telecommunications

Consumer Price Index increased by 0.2% from a year earlier, and that in Ku-areas of Tokyo in January decreased by 0.3%. The average index in 2004 unchanged from a year earlier.

Family Income and Expenditure Survey (December and 2004)

Friday, January 28, released by Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs,

Posts and Telecommunications

Living expenditure in workers' household decreased for the second consecutive month by 3.8% in real values from a year earlier.

The average living expenditure in 2004 increased for the first time in 7 years by 1.5% in real values from the previous year.

Labor Force Survey (December and 2004)

**Friday, January 28, released by Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs,
Posts and Telecommunications**

Report on Employment Service (December and 2004)

Friday, January 28, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) was 4.4%, decreased by 0.1 point from the previous month, the best showing in 6 years.

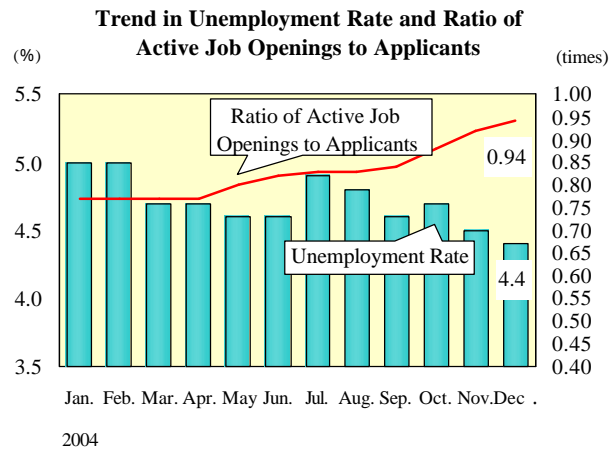
That for men decreased by 0.1 points to 4.6% while that for women drop by 0.1 points to 4.2%.

The number of unemployed persons decreased by 300 thousands from a year earlier to 2.7 million.

The ratio of active job openings to applicants (seasonally adjusted) was 0.94, rose by 0.02 points from the previous month.

The average unemployment rate in 2004 was 4.7%, decreased by 0.6 points from a year earlier.

The average ratio of active job openings to the applicants in 2004 was 0.83, increased for the second consecutive year by 0.19 points from the previous year.



Monthly Labor Survey (Preliminary Report in December and 2004)

Tuesday, February 1, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Total cash earnings (for establishments with 5 or more employees) decreased by 1.0% and contractual cash earnings decreased by 0.4% from a year earlier.

Non-scheduled hours worked in manufacturing (for establishments with 5 or more employees, seasonally adjusted) decreased for the first time in 2 months by 1.7% from the previous month.

The average total cash earnings in 2004 decreased by 0.7%, marking the 4th straight year of decline.

The average Non-scheduled hours worked in manufacturing (for establishments with 5 or more employees, seasonally adjusted) in 2004 increased by 7.1%, marking the 3rd straight rise.

Regular employees in 2004 increased for the first time in 7 years by 0.4%.

Other Reports

Monthly Economic Report (January) Wednesday, January 19, released by Cabinet Office

The economy is recovering at a moderate pace recently, while some weak movements are seen.

- * Corporate profits are improving sharply and business investment is increasing.
- * Private consumption is decelerating recently.
- * The employment situation is improving, though some severe aspects remain.
- * Both exports and industrial production are weakening.

As for short-term prospects, the economic recovery is expected to remain solid with steady recovery in the world economy, as the domestic private demand continues to increase. On the other hand, attention should be given to the inventory adjustment in the IT related area and to the developments of exchange rates, crude oil prices and other factors.

Monthly Labor Economy Report (January)

Thursday, January 20, released by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The employment situation is improving, though some severe aspects remain.

Fiscal 2005 Economic Outlook and Basic Stance for Economic and Fiscal Management

Friday, January 21, released by Cabinet Office

We have also compiled the "**Main Labor Economics Indicators**", which summarizes indexes relating to the labor economy. Please go to "<https://www.jil.go.jp/english/estatis/eindex.html>"

EDITED BY Statistical Information and Analysis Department, The Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training