



Recent Statistical Survey Reports

April 2006

[Tuesday, April 4 –Monday, May 1]

Statistical Survey Reports

Indexes of Business Conditions (Preliminary Report for February)

Thursday, April 6, released by the Cabinet Office

The Leading Index was 80.0%, the Coincident Index was 55.6%, and the Lagging Index was 75.0%.

Survey on Consecutive Leave Plan in Golden-Week Holidays

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

The average consecutive leave given by a company during Golden-Week holidays of this year was 5.9 days, longer than the previous year (5.1 days).

Results of “The Emergency Survey on the Basic Skills for Working Life”

Tuesday, April 18, released by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

90% or more of the companies surveyed place emphasis on basic skills for working life in recruiting employees and in developing human resources. Many companies call for their employees especially spirits of independence and abilities to take action.

Survey on Corporate Activities (FY2005)

Tuesday, April 25, released by Cabinet Office

Number of workers increased on average 0.3% per fiscal year in last 3 years, and that will increase on average 1.9% per fiscal year in coming 3 years.

Indices of Industrial Production (Preliminary Report for March)

Friday, April 28, released by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

The index of industrial production (seasonally adjusted) increased by 0.2 % from the previous month, showing an increase for the first time in three months.

This index is expected to increase in April and to decrease in May.

Consumer Price Index (March and FY2005 average)

Friday, April 28, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

The consumer price index was up 0.3% from the previous year. And in the Ku- areas of Tokyo in April, it was up 0.3% from the previous year.

The consumer price index in FY2005 decreased for 7 years in a row, by 0.1% from the previous fiscal year.

Family Income and Expenditure Survey (March)

Friday, April 28, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Living expenditure in workers' household decreased by 4.0% in real values from the same month the

year before, decreased for 3 months in a row..

Labor Force Survey (March and FY2005)

Friday, April 28, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
Report on Employment Service (March and FY2005)

Friday, April 28, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) was 4.1%, unchanged from the previous month.

That for men decreased by 0.2 points to 4.3%, that for women increased by 0.3 points to 3.9%.

The number of unemployed persons decreased by 240 thousands from a year earlier to 2.89 million.

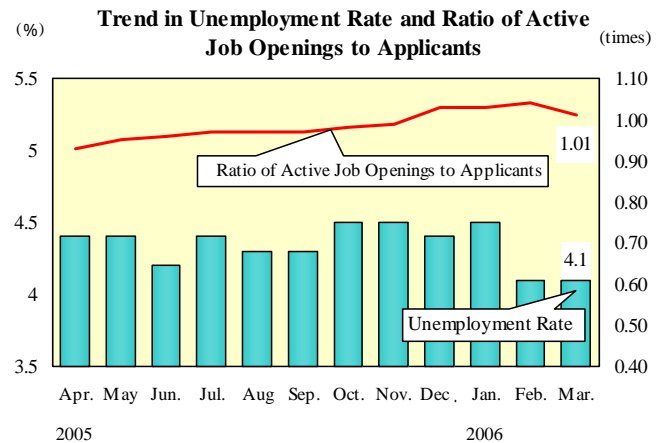
The number of employees (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 150 thousand people to 54.71 million people from the previous month.

The ratio of active job openings to applicants (seasonally adjusted) was 1.01, decreased by 0.03 points from the previous month.

The unemployment rate in FY2005 was 4.3%,

decreased by 0.3 points from the previous fiscal year (decreased for 3 years in a row).

The ratio of active job openings to applicants in FY2005 was 0.98, increased by 0.12 points from the previous fiscal year.



Monthly Labor Survey (Preliminary Report in March)

Monday, May 1, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Total amount of cash earnings (for business establishments with 5 or more employees) decreased by 0.2% from a year earlier, and scheduled cash earnings decreased by 0.2%.

Non-scheduled hours worked in manufacturing (for business establishments with 5 or more employees, seasonally adjusted) decreased by 0.3% from the previous month.

Other Reports

Monthly Economic Report (April)

Friday, April 14, released by the Cabinet Office

The economy is recovering.

- * Corporate profits are improving and business investment is increasing.
- * Private consumption is increasing moderately.
- * The employment situation is improving on a broader basis, though some severe aspects remain.
- * Exports are increasing and industrial production is increasing moderately

Monthly Economic Labor Report (April)

Monday, April 17, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

In looking at the aspects of labor and economy, the employment situation shows an expansion of improvement though some severe aspects remain. For example, the unemployment rate is declining, though still remains at a high level, and wages are steadily increasing.

2006 White Paper on Small and Medium Enterprises in Japan

Friday, April 28, released by Small and medium Enterprise Agency

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