

August 2020

[August 1 – September 1]

Statistical Survey Reports

Survey on Public Assistance Recipients (May)

August 5, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare The number of welfare recipients in May was 2,057,703 and the number of households of welfare recipients was 1,636,236.

Survey on Labour Disputes (2019)

August 6, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare There were 268 cases of "total disputes" (320 cases for the previous year), a reduction for the tenth consecutive year, and a record low since 1957 where comparable data is available.

Indexes of Business Conditions June 2020 (Preliminary Release)

August 7, released by the Cabinet Office The Coincident Index of Composite Index (CI, revised figures, 2015=100) in June was 76.4, increased by 3.5 point. And 3 months backward moving average decreased by 4.33 point, and 7 months backward moving average decreased by 2.60 point. So the Assessment of Coincident Index was "Worsening" (The same as the previous month).

The Leading Index was 85.0, an increase of 6.7 point, and the Lagging Index was 93.3, an increase of 0.8 point.

Family Income and Expenditure Survey (June)

August 7, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

The average monthly income for a worker's households with 2 or more family members was up 15.6% in real terms from the previous year. The change over the year of wages & salaries was down 1.8% in real terms from the previous year (household heads: -2.7% in real terms, spouse of household: 4.2% in real terms).

The average of consumption expenditures for a worker's household with 2 or more family members was down 3.4% in real terms from the previous year.

Monthly Labour Survey (Provisional Report in June)

August 7, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Total amount of cash earnings decreased by 1.7% and contractual cash earnings decreased by 1.3% (fulltime employees -2.0%, part-time employees -1.2%) from a year earlier.

Special cash earnings decreased by 2.4% from a year earlier. Scheduled cash earnings increased 0.6% and non-scheduled cash earnings decreased by 24.6% from year earlier. Real wage (total cash earnings) decreased by 1.9% from a year earlier and real wage (contractual cash earnings) decreased by 1.4% from a year earlier.

Non-scheduled hours worked decreased by 23.9% from a year earlier.

Non-scheduled hours worked by manufacturing industry workers decreased by 1.8% from the previous month (seasonally adjusted).

Labor Force Survey: Detailed Tabulation (Apr.-Jun. 2020)

August 11, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Of the total 55.79 million employee (excl. executive of company or corporation) (average, in the Apr. - Jun. 2020), the number of the regular employees increased by 300 thousand from the previous year to 35.43 million and the number of non-regular employees was 20.36 million, decreased by 880 thousand from the previous year.

Conditions Relating to Claim and Result of Spring Wage Negotiation (major business establishments) (2020)

August 14, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

The average pay raise agreed upon of 321 major business establishments with the capital one billion yen or more and the labour union belonged by 1,000 employees or more was 6,286 yen, decreased by 504 yen from a year earlier (6,790 yen). The wage increase percentage was 2.00%, decreased by 0.18 point from a year earlier (2.18%).

National Accounts (The 1st Preliminary Estimates Apr.-Jun.2020)

Real GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth rate (Seasonally Adjusted) at Apr.-Jun.2020 was -7.8% (-27.8% on annual basis). Of real GDP growth rate, -4.8% was contributed by domestic demand and

-3.0% by external demand.

Compensation of Employees (real) was -3.7% and compensation of Employees (nominal) was -3.9% (changes from the previous quarter (seasonally adjusted)).



Consumer Price Index Japan (July)

August 21, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

The consumer price index for Japan in June 2020 was 101.9(2015=100), up 0.3% over the year. All items, less fresh food, the comprehensive index was 101.6, unchanged from the previous year. All items, less fresh food and energy, the comprehensive index was 101.9, up 0.4% from the previous year.

Monthly Labour Survey Final Report in June

August 25, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Total amount of cash earnings decreased by 2.0% and contractual cash earnings decreased by 1.5% (fulltime employees -2.1%, part-time employees -0.9%) from a year earlier.

Special cash earnings decreased by 2.5% from a year earlier. Scheduled cash earnings increased by 0.4% and non-scheduled cash earnings decreased by 24.5% from year earlier. Real wage (total cash earnings) decreased by 2.1% from a year earlier and real wage (contractual cash earnings) decreased by 1.6% from a year earlier.

Non-scheduled hours worked decreased by 23.9% from a year earlier.

Non-scheduled hours worked by manufacturing industry workers decreased by 1.8% from the previous month (seasonally adjusted).

Survey on Supply and Demand of Construction Labor

August 25, released by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Indexes of Business Conditions June 2020(Revision of the Preliminary Release)

August 26, released by the Cabinet Office

The Coincident Index of Composite Index (CI, revised figures, 2015=100) in June was 76.6, an increase of 3.7 point. And 3 months backward moving average decreased for 4.26 point, and 7 months backward moving average decreased for 2.57 point. So the Assessment of Coincident Index was "Worsening" (The same as the previous month)

The Leading Index was 84.4, an increase of 6.1 point, and the Lagging Index was 93.4, a decrease of 1.6 point.

Consumer Price Index Ku-area of Tokyo (August) (preliminary)

August 28, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications The consumer price index for Ku-area of Tokyo in August 2020(preliminary) was 102.1(2015=100), up 0.3% from the previous year. All items, less fresh food, the comprehensive index was 101.4, down 0.3% from the previous year. All items, less fresh food and energy, the comprehensive index was 101.9, down 0.1% from the previous year.

Indices of Industrial Production (July)

August 31, released by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry The index of industrial production (seasonally adjusted, 2015=100) increased by 8.0% from the previous month. According to the Survey of Production Forecast in Manufacturing, Production is expected to increase in August and September.

Labour Force Survey (July)

September 1, released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) was 2.9%, increased by 0.1 point from the previous month. That for men was 3.0% decreased by 0.1 point from and that for women was 2.7%, increased by 0.2 point from.

The number of unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted) was 1.96 million, increased by 20 thousand from the previous month.

The number of employees was 59.42 million, decreased by 920 thousand from the previous year.

Among them, the number of regular employee was 35.78 million, increased by 520 thousand from the previous year and the number of non-regular employee was 20.43 million, decreased by 1.31 million from the previous year.

Employment Referrals for General Workers (July)

September 1, released by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Active job openings-to-applicants ratio (seasonally adjusted) was 1.08, decreased by 0.03 point from the previous month.

The number of monthly active job openings (person(s)) (seasonally adjusted) was increased by 2.5% from the previous month and the number of monthly active applications (person(s)) (seasonally adjusted) was increased by 6.0% from the previous month.

New job openings-to-applicants ratio (seasonally adjusted) was 1.72, unchanged from the previous month.

Active job openings-to-applicants ratio for regular staff (seasonally adjusted) was 0.81, decreased by 0.03 point from the previous month.



Other Report

Monthly Economic Report (August)

August 27, released by the Cabinet Office

The Japanese economy is still in a severe situation due to the Novel Coronavirus, but it is showing movements of picking up recently. (The same as the previous month.)

* Private consumption is picking up recently. (The same as the previous month.)

* Business investment is in a weak tone. (In the previous month, "Business investment is in a weak tone recently.")

* Exports show movements of picking up. (In the previous month, "Exports are bottoming out, although the influence of the infectious disease remains.")

* Industrial production shows movements of picking up in some sectors. (In the previous month, "Industrial production shows signs of picking up recently in some sectors, although it is decreasing as a whole.")

* Corporate profits are decreasing substantially, due to the influence of the infectious disease. Firms' judgments shows movements of improvement, although some severe aspects remain. (In the previous month, "Corporate profits are decreasing substantially, due to the influence of the infectious disease.")

* Employment situation is showing weakness, due to the influence of the infectious disease. (The same as the previous month.)

* Consumer prices are flat. (The same as the previous month.)

We have also compiled the "Main Labor Economics Indicators", which summarizes indexes relating to the labour economy. Please go to "https://www.jil.go.jp/english/estatis/esaikin/esaikin.htm" EDITED BY Research and Statistical Information Analysis Department, The Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training