

Summary of the results

I Summary of the Average Results for 2007

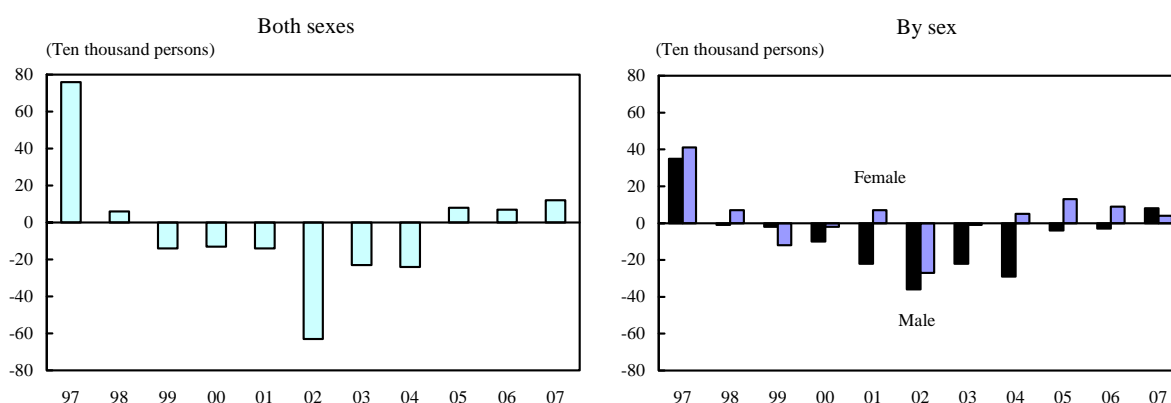
1. Labour force

The labour force (employed and unemployed persons) based on the 2007 yearly average was 66.69 million (39.06 million males and 27.63 million females), an increase of 120,000 people from the previous year, and the third consecutive annual increase. This figure includes an increase of 300,000 employed persons and a decrease of 180,000 unemployed persons.

A breakdown of the labour force by sex shows that the male labour force grew by 80,000, the first time in a decade, and the female labour force grew by 40,000, the fourth consecutive annual increase.

(Fig. 1)

Fig. 1 Labour force change from the previous year



Labour force participation rate

The labour force participation rate (the labour force as a percentage of the total population of people aged 15 years old or more) was 60.4% on average for 2007, the same rate for 4 consecutive years.

A breakdown of the labour force by sex shows the rate for males was 73.1%, a 0.1 point decrease from the previous year. According to age group, the rate for the group aged 15-64 was 85.2%, an increase of 0.4 point, while that for females was 48.5%, namely the same rate as the previous year. According to age group, the rate for the group aged 15-64 was 61.9%, an increase of 0.6 point.

(Table 1)

Table 1 Trends in labour force participation rate by age group

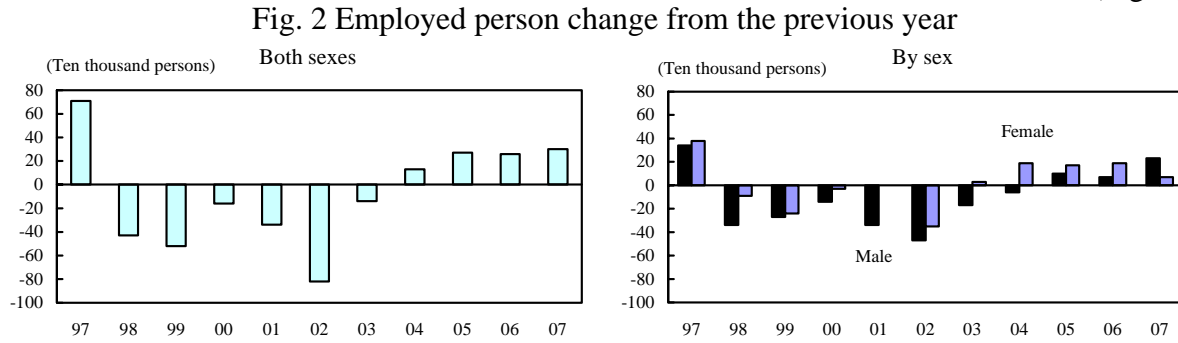
	Both sexes		Male							Female							
	Total	Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more	(regrouped) 15-64	Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more	(regrouped) 15-64
97	63.7	77.7	49.4	97.2	98.1	97.6	85.1	36.7	85.4	50.4	47.6	62.5	66.8	70.3	49.5	15.4	59.6
98	63.3	77.3	48.9	96.7	97.9	97.2	85.0	35.9	85.3	50.1	47.8	62.9	66.3	70.2	49.8	15.2	59.8
99	62.9	76.9	47.7	96.5	97.9	97.2	85.2	35.5	85.3	49.6	46.8	63.6	65.4	69.8	49.9	14.9	59.5
00	62.4	76.4	47.3	96.6	98.0	97.1	84.0	34.1	85.3	49.3	46.8	63.9	65.3	69.9	49.6	14.4	59.6
01	62.0	75.7	46.5	96.4	97.7	96.7	83.4	32.9	85.1	49.2	46.4	65.2	66.2	70.1	49.2	13.8	60.0
02	61.2	74.7	46.0	95.7	97.3	96.6	82.9	31.1	84.7	48.5	44.9	66.0	66.0	69.8	48.9	13.2	59.8
03	60.8	74.1	45.2	95.6	97.2	96.6	83.0	29.9	84.6	48.3	44.5	66.6	66.5	70.1	49.4	13.0	60.0
04	60.4	73.4	44.0	95.4	97.0	96.3	82.6	29.2	84.3	48.3	44.3	67.5	66.2	70.4	50.2	12.9	60.2
05	60.4	73.3	44.4	95.1	97.0	96.1	83.0	29.4	84.4	48.4	45.0	68.3	66.7	71.2	50.8	12.7	60.8
06	60.4	73.2	44.7	95.4	96.9	96.3	83.7	29.2	84.8	48.5	45.2	68.7	67.3	72.2	51.5	13.0	61.3
07	60.4	73.1	45.1	95.5	96.9	96.3	84.8	29.8	85.2	48.5	44.8	69.3	67.9	73.2	52.5	12.9	61.9

(%)

2. Employed persons

Based on the 2007 yearly average, the number of employed persons was 64.12 million, an increase of 300,000 from the previous year, and this figure has increased for 4 consecutive years. A breakdown by sex shows that the number of males grew by 230,000, the third consecutive annual increase, while that of females grew by 70,000, the fifth consecutive annual increase.

(Fig. 2)



Employment rate

The employment rate (employed persons as a percentage of the overall population of people aged 15 years and over) was an average of 58.1% for 2007, a 0.2 point increase from the previous year, and the third consecutive annual increase.

A breakdown by sex shows that the rate for males was 70.3%, a 0.3 point increase from the previous year, and the third consecutive annual increase. According to age group, the rate for the group aged 15-64 was 81.7%, an increase of 0.7 point.

The rate for females was 46.6%, the same rate for the previous year. According to age group, the rate for the group aged 15-64 was 59.5%, an increase of 0.7 point.

(Fig. 3, Table 2)

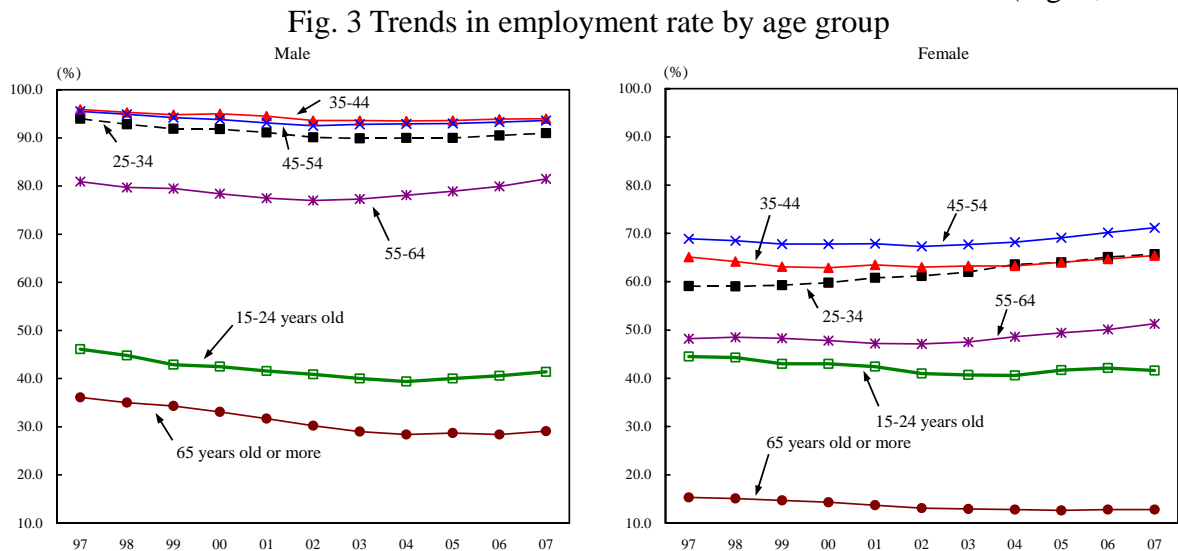


Table 2 Trends in employment rate by age group

	Both sexes		Male							Female									
	Total	Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more	(regrouped) 25-44	(regrouped) 15-64	Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more	(regrouped) 25-44	(regrouped) 15-64
97	61.5	75.1	46.1	94.0	95.9	95.5	80.9	36.1	94.9	82.4	48.6	44.5	59.1	65.1	68.9	48.2	15.3	62.0	57.5
98	60.7	74.1	44.8	92.8	95.3	94.9	79.7	35.0	93.9	81.7	48.1	44.3	59.0	64.2	68.5	48.5	15.1	61.4	57.2
99	59.9	73.2	42.9	91.9	94.8	94.2	79.5	34.3	93.3	81.1	47.4	43.0	59.3	63.1	67.8	48.3	14.7	61.1	56.7
00	59.5	72.7	42.5	91.8	95.0	93.8	78.4	33.1	93.2	81.0	47.1	43.0	59.8	62.9	67.8	47.8	14.3	61.2	56.7
01	58.9	71.7	41.6	91.1	94.5	93.1	77.5	31.7	92.6	80.5	46.8	42.4	60.8	63.5	67.9	47.2	13.7	62.0	57.0
02	57.9	70.6	40.9	90.1	93.6	92.5	77.0	30.2	91.7	79.9	46.1	41.0	61.2	63.0	67.3	47.1	13.1	62.0	56.6
03	57.6	70.1	40.0	89.9	93.6	92.8	77.3	29.0	91.6	79.8	45.9	40.7	62.0	63.3	67.7	47.5	12.9	62.6	56.8
04	57.6	69.8	39.4	90.0	93.5	92.9	78.1	28.4	91.7	80.0	46.1	40.6	63.6	63.3	68.2	48.6	12.8	63.5	57.4
05	57.7	69.9	40.0	90.0	93.6	93.0	78.9	28.7	91.7	80.4	46.3	41.7	64.0	64.0	69.1	49.4	12.6	64.0	58.1
06	57.9	70.0	40.6	90.5	93.9	93.3	79.9	28.4	92.1	81.0	46.6	42.1	65.1	64.7	70.2	50.1	12.8	64.9	58.8
07	58.1	70.3	41.4	91.0	94.0	93.6	81.5	29.1	92.5	81.7	46.6	41.6	65.7	65.4	71.2	51.3	12.8	65.5	59.5

(1) Employed person by status of employment

As for employed persons by their employment status, the average number of employees for 2007 was 55.23 million, which was an increase of 510,000 from the previous year and a record-high figure. The proportion of employees to employed persons was 86.1%, an increase of 0.4 point.

The number of self-employed and family workers was 8.58 million, which was a decrease of 220,000 from the previous year.

A breakdown of employee by sex shows that the number of male employees was 32.26 million, an increase of 320,000, and the third consecutive annual increase and that of female employees was 22.97 million, an increase of 200,000 and the fifth consecutive annual increase.

(Table 3)

Table 3 Trends in employed persons based on status in employment

	(Ten thousand persons)											
	Both sexes				Male				Female			
	Total	Self-employed/ Family workers	Employee	Ratio(%)	Total	Self-employed/ Family workers	Employee	Ratio(%)	Total	Self-employed/ Family workers	Employee	Ratio(%)
97	6557	1148	5391	82.2	3892	618	3264	83.9	2665	531	2127	79.8
98	6514	1128	5368	82.4	3858	603	3243	84.1	2656	525	2124	80.0
99	6462	1110	5331	82.5	3831	604	3215	83.9	2632	508	2116	80.4
00	6446	1071	5356	83.1	3817	590	3216	84.3	2629	482	2140	81.4
01	6412	1018	5369	83.7	3783	566	3201	84.6	2629	452	2168	82.5
02	6330	975	5331	84.2	3736	553	3170	84.9	2594	422	2161	83.3
03	6316	956	5335	84.5	3719	546	3158	84.9	2597	410	2177	83.8
04	6329	946	5355	84.6	3713	545	3152	84.9	2616	401	2203	84.2
05	6356	932	5393	84.8	3723	541	3164	85.0	2633	392	2229	84.7
06	6382	880	5472	85.7	3730	517	3194	85.6	2652	362	2277	85.9
07	6412	858	5523	86.1	3753	509	3226	86.0	2659	349	2297	86.4

(Note) 1. Total figures include the "Status unknown in employment".

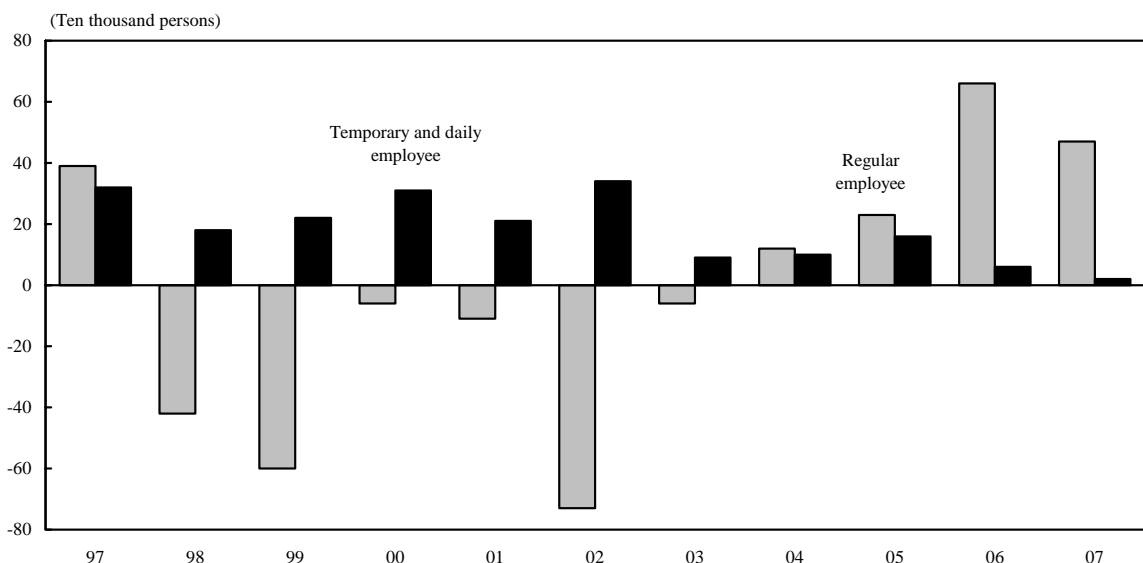
2. The ratio is to the total of employed persons.

The number of employees in non-agricultural industries was 54.78 million, an increase of 480,000 from the previous year.

Of these, the number of regular employees was 47.18 million, an increase of 470,000 and the fourth consecutive annual increase, while that of temporary/daily employees was 7.60 million, an increase of 20,000 and the 21st consecutive annual increase since 1987.

(Fig. 4)

Fig. 4 Employees in non-agricultural industries by regular, temporary and daily employees / Change from the previous year



The proportion of regular employees to all employees in non-agricultural industries for 2007 was 86.1%, a 0.1 point increase, and the first time in 15 years.

The proportion of males as regular employees was higher than that of females, and the proportion of females as temporary/daily employees was higher than that of males.

(Table 4)

Table 4 Trends in the proportion of employees in non-agricultural industries by regular, temporary and daily employees

	Both sexes			Male			Female		
	Total	Regular	Temporary/ Daily	Total	Regular	Temporary/ Daily	Total	Regular	Temporary/ Daily
97	100.0	89.0	11.0	100.0	94.1	5.9	100.0	81.1	18.9
98	100.0	88.6	11.4	100.0	93.9	6.1	100.0	80.5	19.5
99	100.0	88.1	11.9	100.0	93.6	6.4	100.0	79.7	20.3
00	100.0	87.6	12.4	100.0	93.2	6.8	100.0	79.1	20.9
01	100.0	87.2	12.8	100.0	92.9	7.1	100.0	78.8	21.2
02	100.0	86.5	13.5	100.0	92.4	7.6	100.0	77.8	22.2
03	100.0	86.3	13.7	100.0	92.2	7.8	100.0	77.8	22.2
04	100.0	86.1	13.8	100.0	92.0	8.0	100.0	77.8	22.2
05	100.0	86.0	14.0	100.0	91.8	8.2	100.0	77.7	22.3
06	100.0	86.0	14.0	100.0	91.7	8.3	100.0	78.1	21.9
07	100.0	86.1	13.9	100.0	91.7	8.3	100.0	78.3	21.7

(2) Employed persons by industry

A breakdown of employed persons on average for 2007 by major industry shows 5.79 million in “Medical, health care and welfare”, an increase of 80,000 compared to the previous year, 3.42 million in “Eating and drinking places, accommodations”, an increase of 50,000 and 11.65 million in “Manufacturing”, an increase of 40,000 respectively. The number of employed persons in the “Wholesale and retail trade” was 11.13 million, the same number for the previous year. Conversely, the number in “Construction” decreased by 70,000 to 5.52 million, and that in “Services” decreased by 50,000 to 9.33 million.

(Fig. 5, Table 5)

Fig. 5 Employed person change from the previous year by major industry

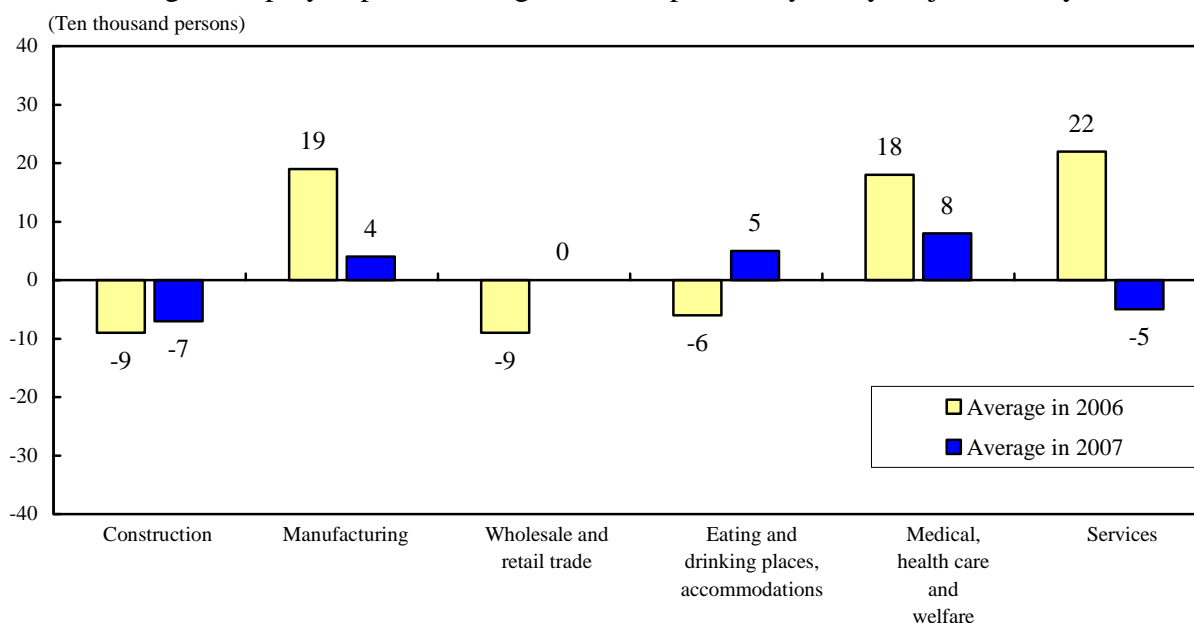


Table 5 Trends in employed persons by industrial sector

	Actual figures (ten thousand persons)				Change over the year (ten thousand persons)				Change over the year in %				Ratio (%)			
	Total	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry	Total	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry	Total	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry	Total	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry
97	6557	350	2134	4039	71	-6	13	60	1.1	-1.7	0.6	1.5	100.0	5.3	32.5	61.6
98	6514	343	2050	4085	-43	-7	-84	46	-0.7	-2.0	-3.9	1.1	100.0	5.3	31.5	62.7
99	6462	335	2008	4078	-52	-8	-42	-7	-0.8	-2.3	-2.0	-0.2	100.0	5.2	31.1	63.1
00	6446	326	1979	4103	-16	-9	-29	25	-0.2	-2.7	-1.4	0.6	100.0	5.1	30.7	63.7
01	6412	313	1921	4133	-34	-13	-58	30	-0.5	-4.0	-2.9	0.7	100.0	4.9	30.0	64.5
02	6330	296	1845	4134	-82	-17	-76	1	-1.3	-5.4	-4.0	0.0	100.0	4.7	29.1	65.3
03	6316	293	1787	4175	-14	-3	-58	41	-0.2	-1.0	-3.1	1.0	100.0	4.6	28.3	66.1
04	6329	286	1738	4236	13	-7	-49	61	0.2	-2.4	-2.7	1.5	100.0	4.5	27.5	66.9
05	6356	282	1713	4285	27	-4	-25	49	0.4	-1.4	-1.4	1.2	100.0	4.4	27.0	67.4
06	6382	272	1723	4318	26	-10	10	33	0.4	-3.5	0.6	0.8	100.0	4.3	27.0	67.7
07	6412	272	1721	4342	30	0	-2	24	0.5	0.0	-0.1	0.6	100.0	4.2	26.8	67.7

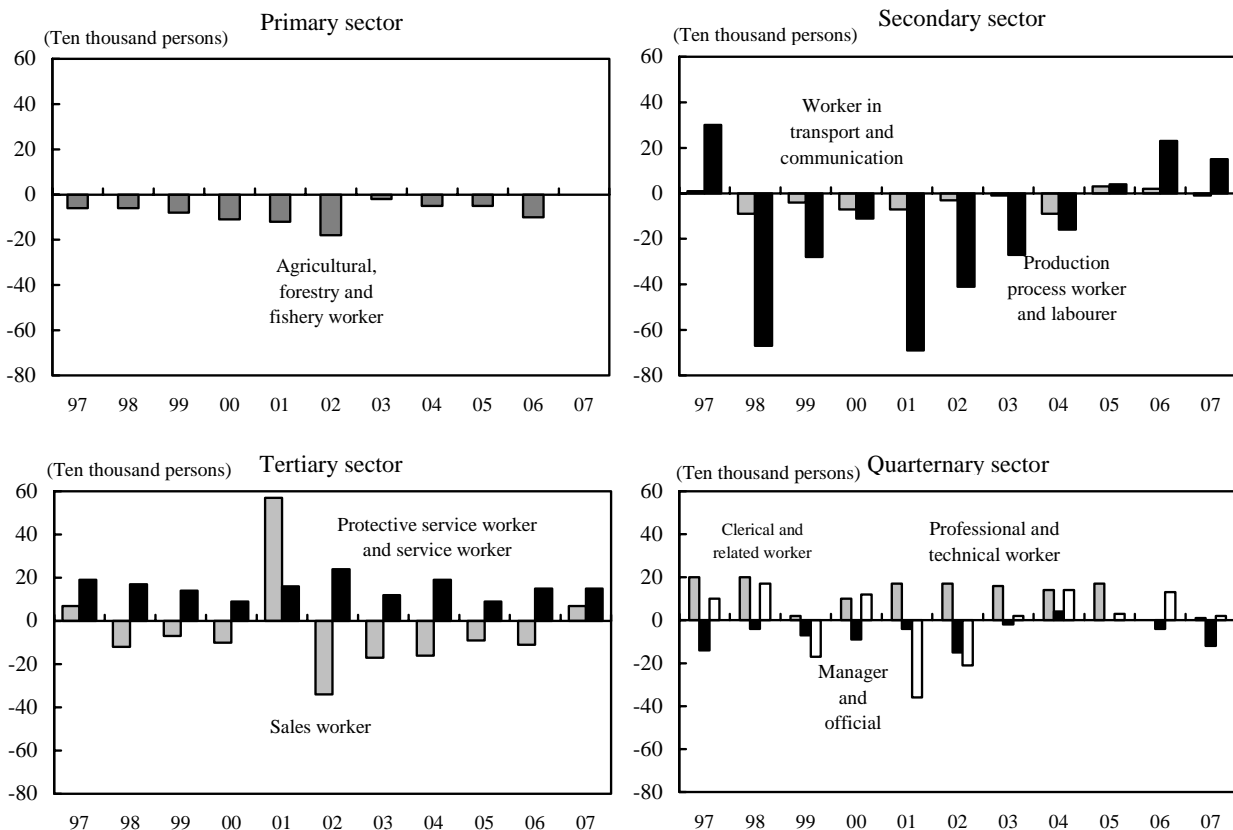
- (Note) 1. Primary industry: "Agriculture and forestry" and "Fisheries"
 Second industry: "Mining", "Construction" and "Manufacturing"
 Tertiary industry: Other than the above industries (excluding non-classifiable industries)
2. The ratio is relative to the total of employed persons.
3. Attention needs to be paid when comparing the change over the year because of the revision of the Japan Standard Industrial Classification in 2002. (The new classification has been introduced since 2003.)

(3) Employed persons by major occupation

A breakdown of employed persons on average for 2007 by major occupation shows 18.20 million in "Production process worker and labourer", an increase of 150,000 compared to the previous year and the third consecutive annual increase, 8.88 million in "Sales worker", an increase of 70,000 from the previous year and occurring for the first time in six years. The number of employed persons in "Clerical and related worker" was 12.62 million, an increase of 20,000 from the previous year and occurring for the first time in five years, and in "Professional and technical worker" was 9.38 million, an increase of 10,000 compared to the previous year and occurring for the first time in two years.

(Fig. 6)

Fig. 6 Employed person change from the previous year by major occupation

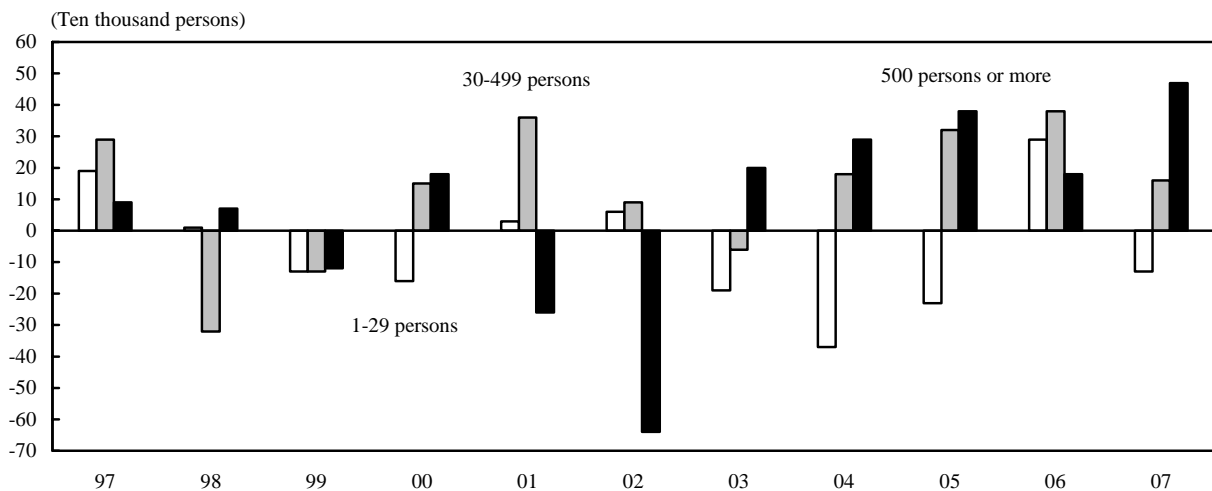


(4) Employee by number of persons engaged in enterprise

A breakdown of employees in non-agricultural industries according to the average number of persons engaged by enterprises (excluding government employees) through 2007 shows that the number of employees in enterprises with staff of 1-29 person/s was 16.72 million, a decrease of 130,000 from the previous year, and occurring for the first time in two years. On the other hand, the number of employees in enterprises with staff of 30-499 persons was 18.91 million, an increase of 160,000, and a figure that has continued to increase for four consecutive years, and those in enterprises with 500 persons or more was 13.36 million, an increase of 470,000, and a figure that has continued to increase for five consecutive years.

(Fig. 7)

Fig. 7 Non-agricultural employees by the number of persons engaged in enterprise change from the previous year



(Note) Concerning the data for the number of persons engaged in enterprise, attention needs to be paid when comparing the change over the year because of the postal service privatization on 1 October 2007.

(5) Employees by weekly hours of work

Based on the 2007 yearly average, the proportion of employees who worked 60 hours or more a week relative to the total of employees was 10.3%, a decrease of 0.5 point from the previous year and the third consecutive annual decrease.

(Fig. 8)

Fig. 8 Proportion of employee who worked 60 hours or more a week relative to the total of employees



(Note) 1. Attention needs to be paid when comparing the change over the year because the number of weekdays in the survey week (*) is not always the same as that in the reference year.

* The last seven days of every month. As for December, 20th to 26th.

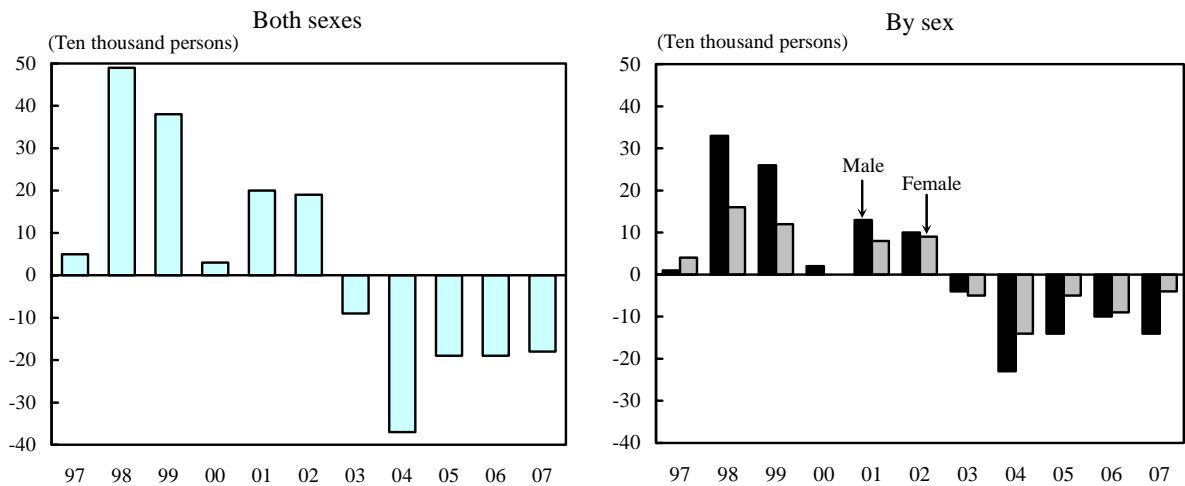
2. Employees include those who work "1-14 hour/s", "15-34 hours" and "35 hours or more" in a week; do not include "Unknown hours worked".

3. Unemployed persons

Based on the 2007 yearly average, the number of unemployed persons was 2.57 million, a decrease of 180,000 compared to the previous year, and this figure has decreased for five consecutive years. A breakdown of unemployed persons by sex shows that there were 1.54 million for unemployed males, a decrease of 140,000 and the fifth consecutive annual decrease, and 1.03 million for unemployed females, a decrease of 40,000 and the fifth consecutive annual decrease.

(Fig. 9)

Fig. 9 Unemployed person change from the previous year



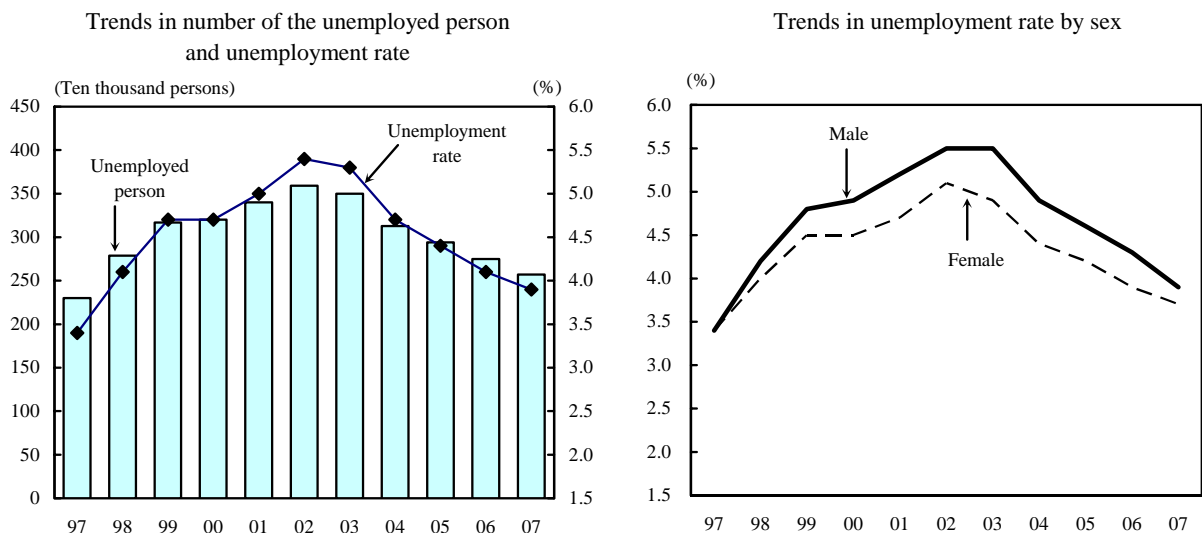
Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate (the proportion of unemployed persons relative to the whole labour force) for the 2007 yearly average was 3.9%, a decrease of 0.2 point from the previous year, and the fifth consecutive annual decrease of this rate. The unemployment rate for males was 3.9%, a decrease of 0.4 point and the fourth consecutive annual decrease, and that for females 3.7%, a decrease of 0.2 point and the fifth consecutive annual decrease.

The unemployment rate for males has exceeded that of females for 10 consecutive years since 1998.

(Fig. 10)

Fig. 10 Trends in the unemployment rate



(1) Unemployment rate by age group

A breakdown of the unemployment rate by sex and age group shows rates peaking in the 15-24 age group for both males and females, at 8.3% and 7.1% respectively. However, while the unemployment rate for this age group remains high, the rates for both males and females in this age group were lower than the previous year, by 0.5 point and 0.1 point respectively.

(Fig. 11, Table 6)

Fig. 11 Trends in unemployment rate by age group

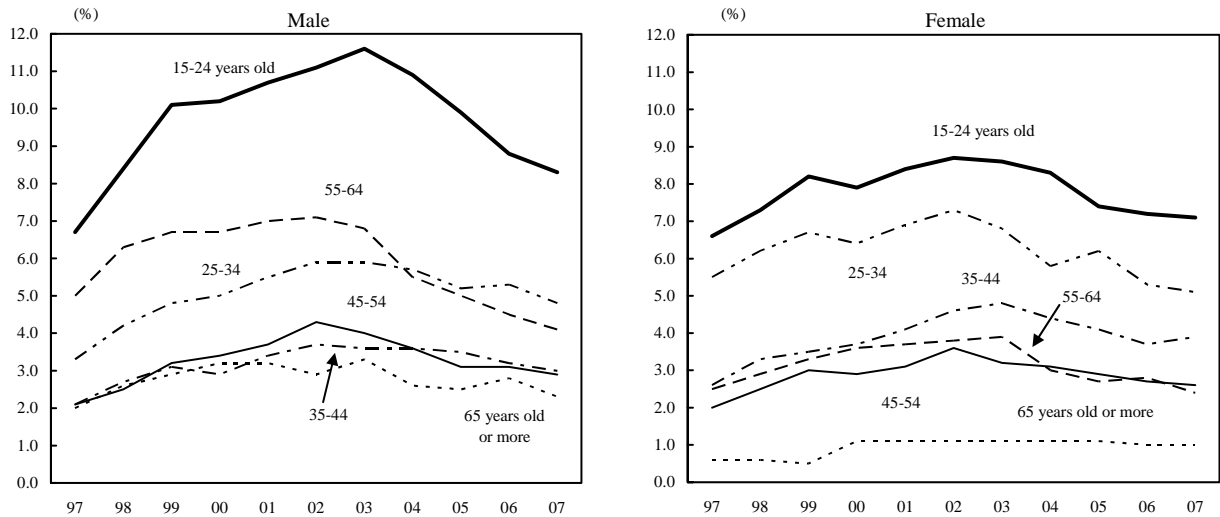


Table 6 Trends in unemployment rate by age group

		Unemployment rate (%)							Change over the year (point)						
		Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more	Total	15-24 years old	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years old or more
Both sexes	97	3.4	6.7	4.2	2.3	2.1	4.0	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.0
	98	4.1	7.7	4.9	3.0	2.5	5.0	2.1	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.6
	99	4.7	9.1	5.5	3.3	3.1	5.4	2.2	0.6	1.4	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.1
	00	4.7	9.1	5.6	3.2	3.3	5.5	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
	01	5.0	9.6	6.0	3.6	3.4	5.7	2.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2
	02	5.4	9.9	6.4	4.1	4.0	5.9	2.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	-0.1
	03	5.3	10.1	6.3	4.1	3.7	5.6	2.5	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	0.2
	04	4.7	9.5	5.7	3.9	3.4	4.5	2.0	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.2	-0.3	-1.1	-0.5
	05	4.4	8.7	5.6	3.8	3.0	4.1	2.0	-0.3	-0.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.0
	06	4.1	8.0	5.2	3.4	2.9	3.9	2.1	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.1
07	3.9	7.7	4.9	3.4	2.8	3.4	1.8	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3	
Male	97	3.4	6.7	3.3	2.1	2.1	5.0	2.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	98	4.2	8.4	4.2	2.7	2.5	6.3	2.6	0.8	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.4	1.3	0.6
	99	4.8	10.1	4.8	3.1	3.2	6.7	2.9	0.6	1.7	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.3
	00	4.9	10.2	5.0	2.9	3.4	6.7	3.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3
	01	5.2	10.7	5.5	3.4	3.7	7.0	3.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0
	02	5.5	11.1	5.9	3.7	4.3	7.1	2.9	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.1	-0.3
	03	5.5	11.6	5.9	3.6	4.0	6.8	3.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	0.4
	04	4.9	10.9	5.7	3.6	3.6	5.5	2.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.2	0.0	-0.4	-1.3	-0.7
	05	4.6	9.9	5.2	3.5	3.1	5.0	2.5	-0.3	-1.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.1
	06	4.3	8.8	5.3	3.2	3.1	4.5	2.8	-0.3	-1.1	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.5	0.3
07	3.9	8.3	4.8	3.0	2.9	4.1	2.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	
Female	97	3.4	6.6	5.5	2.6	2.0	2.5	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0
	98	4.0	7.3	6.2	3.3	2.5	2.9	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.0
	99	4.5	8.2	6.7	3.5	3.0	3.3	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4	-0.1
	00	4.5	7.9	6.4	3.7	2.9	3.6	1.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.3	0.6
	01	4.7	8.4	6.9	4.1	3.1	3.7	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0
	02	5.1	8.7	7.3	4.6	3.6	3.8	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.0
	03	4.9	8.6	6.8	4.8	3.2	3.9	1.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.0
	04	4.4	8.3	5.8	4.4	3.1	3.0	1.1	-0.5	-0.3	-1.0	-0.4	-0.1	-0.9	0.0
	05	4.2	7.4	6.2	4.1	2.9	2.7	1.1	-0.2	-0.9	0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
	06	3.9	7.2	5.3	3.7	2.7	2.8	1.0	-0.3	-0.2	-0.9	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	-0.1
07	3.7	7.1	5.1	3.9	2.6	2.4	1.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	

(2) Unemployed persons by relationship to the head of household

A breakdown of the unemployment rate of person according to their relationship to the head of the household shows that the rate for the “Head of the household” was 2.2%, a decrease of 0.4 point compared to the previous year, and for the “Spouse of the head” the rate was 2.3%, a decrease of 0.2 point, while the rate for “Other family members” was 7.0%, a decrease of 0.1 point. The rate for “One-person households” was 4.9%, a decrease of 0.4 point.

The number of unemployed household heads has decreased by 90,000, the fifth consecutive annual decrease, and the number of other family members who are unemployed has decreased by 40,000, the fourth consecutive annual decrease.

(Figs. 12, 13)

Fig. 12 Trends in unemployment rate by relation to the head of the household

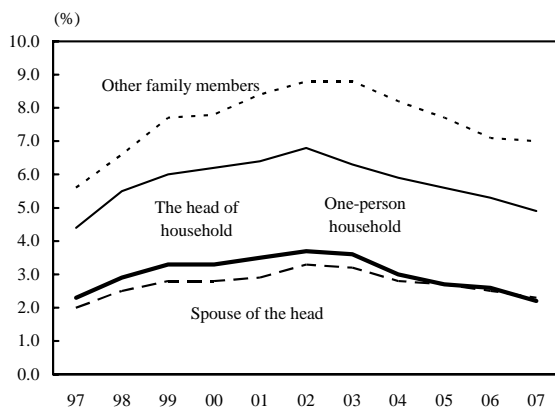
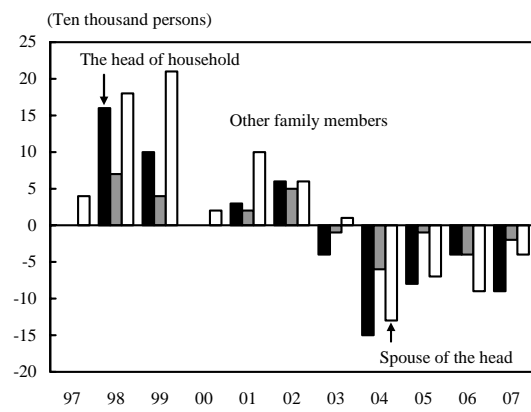


Fig. 13 Unemployed person by relation to the head of the household change from the previous year



(3) Unemployed persons based on reason for seeking a job

A breakdown of unemployed persons on average for 2007 according to their reasons for seeking a job shows:

- The number of persons who “Quit their job involuntarily” was 830,000, of which:
 - The number of persons who quit their previous job due to “Mandatory retirement or termination of employment contract” was 240,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous year.
 - The number of persons who quit their previous job due to “Circumstances of employer or business” was 590,000, a decrease of 50,000.
- The number of persons who “Quit their job voluntarily” (leaving previous job for personal or family’s convenience) was 980,000, a decrease of 80,000.
- The number of persons who “Graduated from school” (person who started seeking a job after they graduated from school) was 120,000, a decrease of 30,000.
- The number of “Other” was 600,000, of which:
 - The number of persons who started seeking a new job because it was “Necessary to earn revenue” was 350,000, a decrease of 20,000.
 - The number of persons who started seeking a new job for reasons classified under “Other” (e.g. reasons such as having more time than before) was 250,000, a decrease of 10,000.

(Table 7)

Table 7 Trends in unemployed persons based on reason for seeking a job

(Ten thousand persons)

	Total	Quitted a job involuntarily			Quitted a job voluntarily	Graduated from school	Other	Other	
		Mandatory retirement, or termination of employment contract	Circumstances of employer or business	Necessary to earn revenue				Other	
97	230	54	-	-	95	12	59	-	-
98	279	85	-	-	101	15	68	-	-
99	317	102	-	-	109	17	77	-	-
00	320	102	-	-	109	18	80	-	-
01	340	106	-	-	118	17	85	-	-
02	359	151	36	115	115	18	70	40	30
03	350	146	38	108	113	20	69	42	27
04	313	118	32	86	106	18	68	42	27
05	294	100	28	72	110	16	65	39	26
06	275	88	25	64	106	15	63	37	26
07	257	83	24	59	98	12	60	35	25

(Note) Because the selection of reasons for seeking a job was subdivided from January 2002, attention needs to be paid to the time series comparison.

4. Young unemployed persons and NEETs

Based on the 2007 yearly average, the number of young unemployed persons was 1.17 million, a decrease of 100,000 from the previous year and the fifth consecutive annual decline. The number of NEETs was 620,000, the same number for the previous year.

A breakdown of the number of NEETs by age group shows the largest numbers, namely 180,000, in the 25-29 and 30-34 age groups.

(Fig. 14, Table 8)

(Note) In the Labour Force Survey, the term “young unemployed persons” is used to refer to unemployed persons in the 15-34 age group, and “NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training)” is used to refer to those not in the labour force in the 15-34 age group and not engaged in housekeeping or attending school

Fig. 14 Trends in young unemployed persons and NEETs by age group

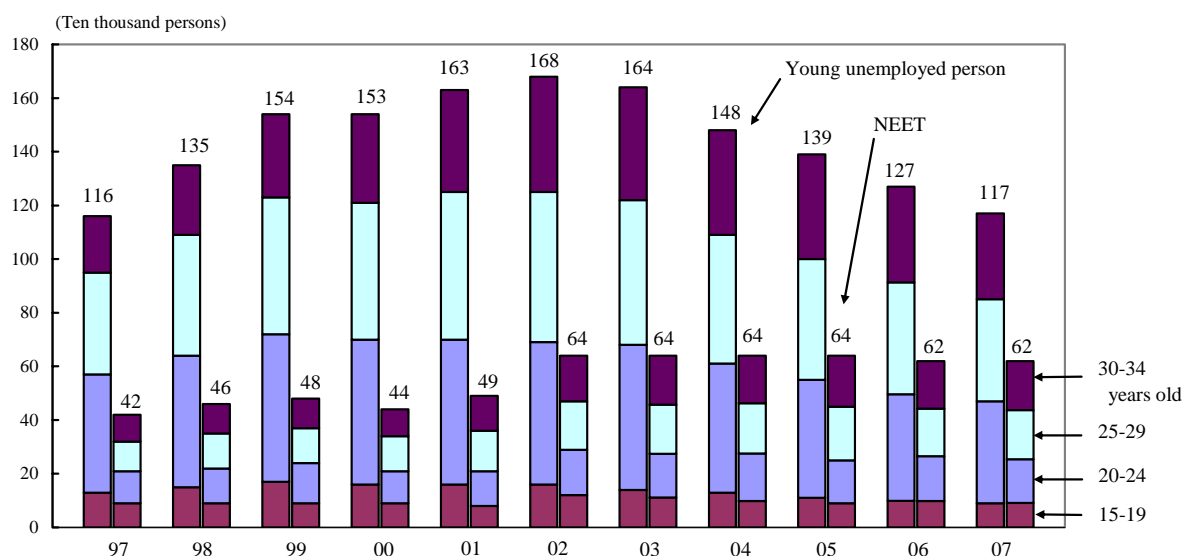


Table 8 Trends in young unemployed persons and NEETs by age group

(Ten thousand persons)

	Young unemployed person							NEET						
	Total	15-24 years old		25-34	25-34		Total	15-24 years old		25-34	25-34			
		15-19	20-24		25-29	30-34		15-19	20-24		25-29	30-34		
97	116	57	13	44	59	38	21	42	21	9	12	21	11	10
98	135	64	15	49	71	45	26	46	22	9	13	24	13	11
99	154	72	17	55	82	51	31	48	23	9	15	25	13	11
00	153	69	16	54	84	51	33	44	21	9	12	23	13	10
01	163	70	16	54	93	55	38	49	21	8	13	28	15	13
02	168	69	16	53	99	56	43	64	29	12	17	35	18	17
03	164	68	14	54	96	54	42	64	28	11	16	36	18	18
04	148	61	13	48	87	48	39	64	27	10	18	37	19	18
05	139	55	11	44	84	45	39	64	25	9	16	39	20	19
06	127	50	10	40	77	42	36	62	26	10	17	36	18	18
07	117	47	9	38	70	38	32	62	25	9	16	37	18	18

5. Regional situation

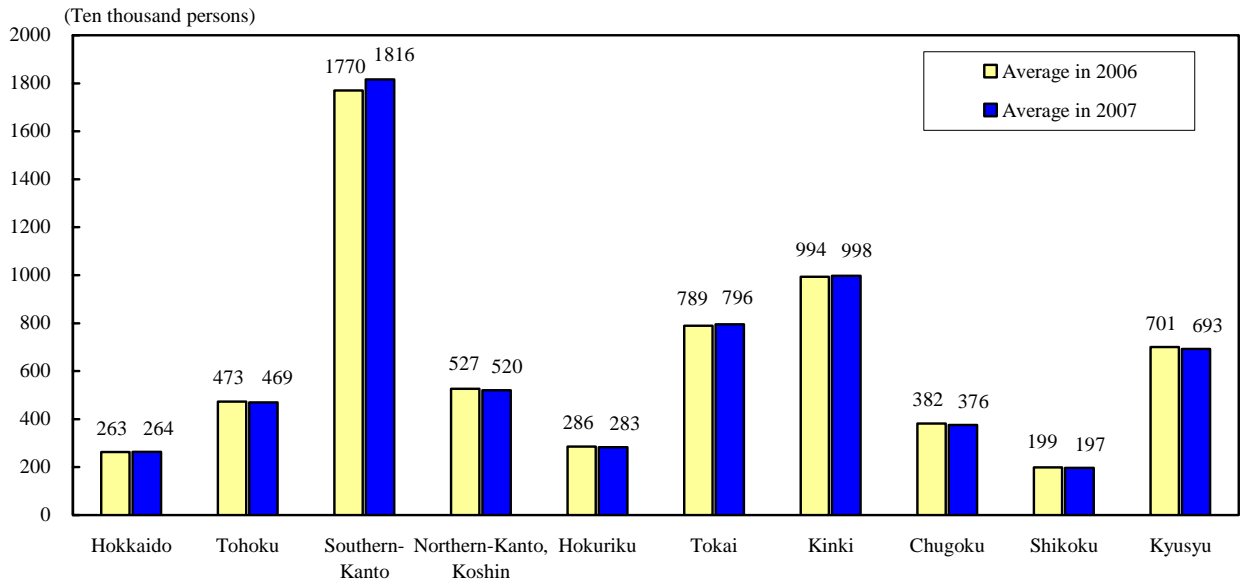
The number of employed persons and the unemployment rates for ten regions based on the 2007 yearly average are given below.

(1) Employed persons

The number of employed persons increased from the previous year in four regions: Hokkaido, Southern-Kanto, Tokai and Kinki.

(Fig. 15)

Fig. 15 Employed persons by region



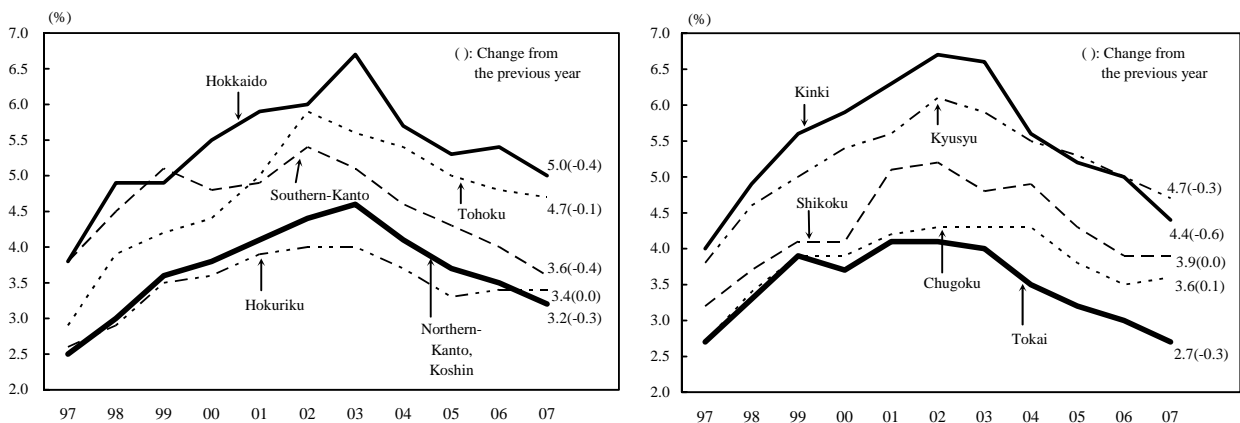
(2) Unemployment rates

The unemployment rates and comparisons with the previous year are as follows:

Hokkaido	5.0% (down 0.4 point)	Tokai	2.7% (down 0.3 point)
Tohoku	4.7% (down 0.1 point)	Kinki	4.4% (down 0.6 point)
Southern-Kanto	3.6% (down 0.4 point)	Chugoku	3.6% (up 0.1 point)
Northern-Kanto, Koshin	3.2% (down 0.3 point)	Shikoku	3.9% (same rate)
Hokuriku	3.4% (same rate)	Kyusyu	4.7% (down 0.3 point)

(Fig. 16)

Fig. 16 Trends in unemployment rate by region



II Employment and Unemployment Trends in 2007

As for the employment situation during 2007, the number of employed persons increased from the same month the previous year every month except September and October.

The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) remained between 3.6% and 4.0%.

1. Employment situation

As for employment trends in 2007, the number of employed persons increased from the same month the previous year every month except September and October.

As for the changes in the number of employed persons by sex, the number of employed males exceeded the same month the previous year every month, while that of employed females increased from March through July, November and December.

(Fig. 17)

Of employed persons, the number of self-employed and family workers decreased every month from the same month the previous year except for May and June. Meanwhile, the number of employees increased from the same month the previous year every month, reaching a record 55.72 million in May.

(Fig. 18)

Fig. 17 Employed person change from the same month the previous year (2007)

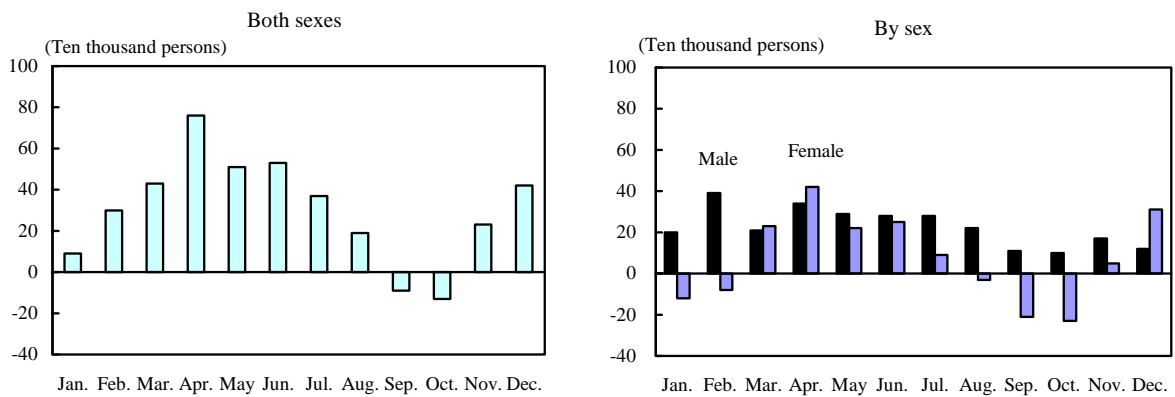
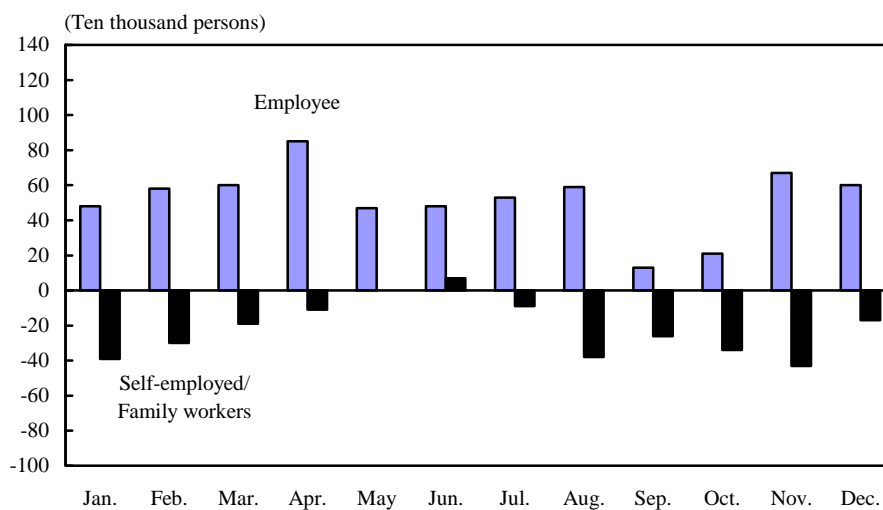


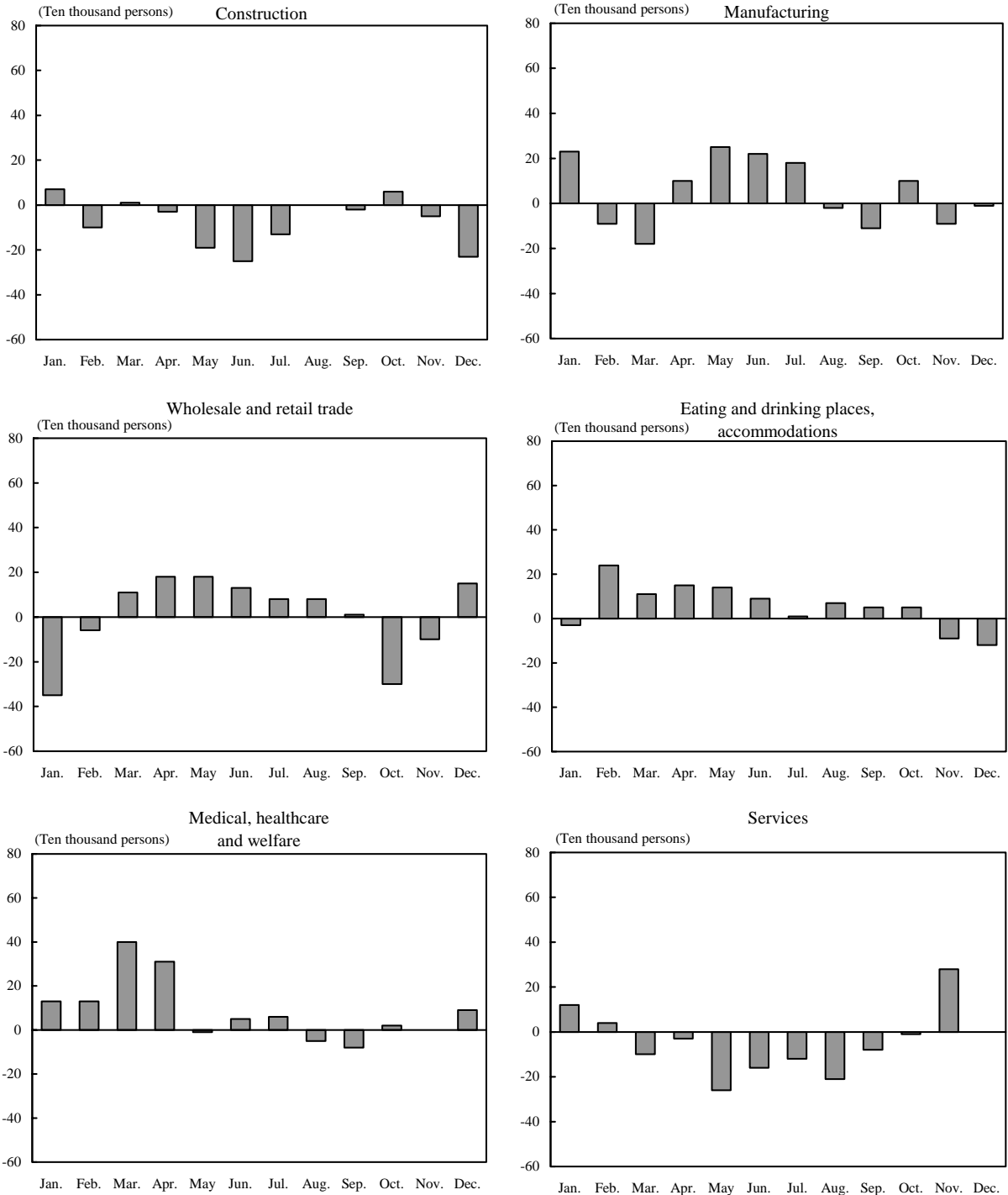
Fig. 18 Employed person by status change from the same month the previous year (2007)



A comparison of the number of employed persons by major industry indicates that the number of employed persons in “Construction” decreased from the same month the previous year every month except January, March, August and October, while the number of employed persons in “Manufacturing” increased in January, from April through July and October. The number of employed persons in the “Wholesale and retail trade” increased each month except January, February, October and November. The number of employed persons in “Eating and drinking places, accommodations” increased every month except January, November and December. The number of employed persons in “Medical, healthcare and welfare” increased every month except May, August, September and November. The number of employed persons in “Services” continued to increase for 22 consecutive months from May 2005 to February 2007, then decreased from March through October, increased in November and was equal to the same month the previous year in December.

(Fig. 19)

Fig. 19 Employed person by major industry change from the same month the previous year (2007)



2. Unemployment situation

The number of unemployed persons decreased from the same month the previous year for 25 consecutive months from December 2005.

The number of unemployed males decreased for 23 consecutive months from February 2006, while that of unemployed females decreased in January and from April through August.

The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) remained between 3.6% and 4.0%.

(Figs. 20, 21)

For a breakdown of unemployed persons based on their relationship to the head of the household, the number of unemployed household heads decreased each month from the same month the previous year. Unemployment among “Spouse of the head” decreased each month except from March through May and October, while that of “Other family members” decreased from March through August and December.

(Fig. 22)

For a breakdown of unemployed persons based on the reason for seeking a job, the number of those having left their previous job due to the “circumstances of employer or business” decreased from the same month the previous year except for February, October and November. Meanwhile, the number of those who had “quit their job voluntarily” decreased for 15 consecutive months from October 2006.

(Fig. 23)

Fig. 20 Unemployed person change from the same month the previous year (2007)

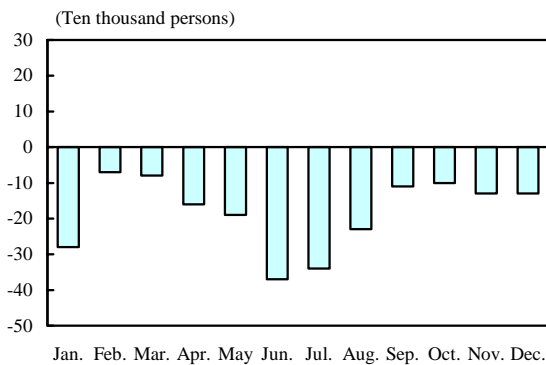


Fig. 21 Trends in unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) (2007)

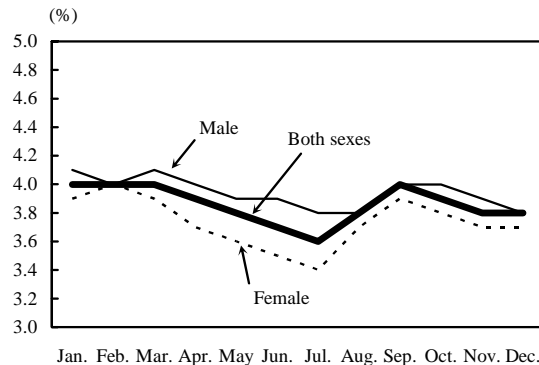


Fig. 22 Unemployed person by relation to the head of the household change from the same month the previous year (2007)

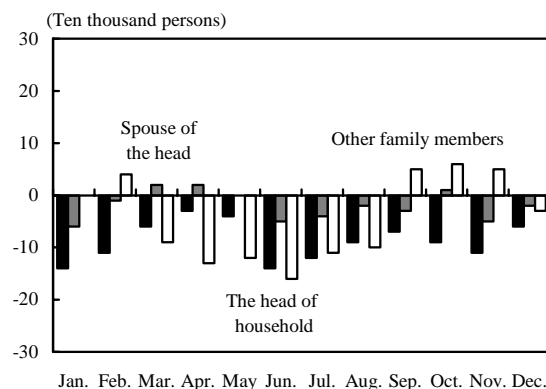
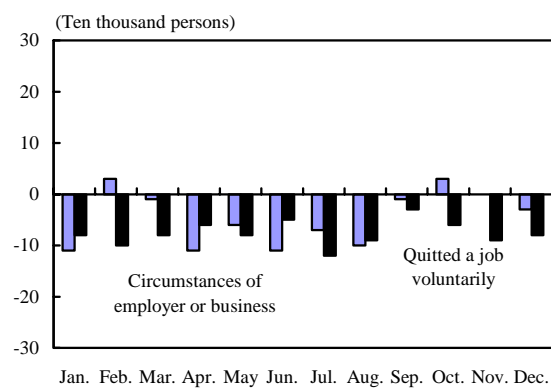


Fig. 23 Unemployed person by major reason for seeking a job change from the same month the previous year (2007)



(Note) Seasonal adjustment has been revised retroactively by adding new data for the twelve months of 2007 to the calculation process. Consequently, the seasonally adjusted figures in this monthly data are not necessarily equal to those in the 2007 preliminary report.