

|               |                           |      |
|---------------|---------------------------|------|
| Labour Market | Slovenian Economic Mirror | IMAD |
|               | No. 6/2003                | p. 9 |

| Selected labour market indicators                 | thousands |          |            | % growth          |                           |                 |
|---|-----------|----------|------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|   | Ø 2002    | Dec 2002 | April 2003 | Apr 03/<br>Mar 03 | Jan-Apr 03/<br>Jan-Apr 02 | Ø2002/<br>Ø2001 |
| A <b>Registered labour force (A=B+C)</b>          | 886.1     | 881.5    | 875.3      | -0.2              | -1.1                      | 0.6             |
| B <b>Persons in employment</b>                    | 783.5     | 781.9    | 778.3      | 0.0               | -0.6                      | 0.6             |
| in enterprises and organisations                  | 631.1     | 631.6    | 633.1      | 0.1               | 0.4                       | 0.7             |
| by those self-employed                            | 66.8      | 66.0     | 66.1       | 1.2               | -2.2                      | -2.3            |
| self-employed and farmers                         | 85.6      | 84.4     | 79.1       | -2.3              | -6.2                      | 1.7             |
| C <b>Registered unemployed</b>                    | 102.6     | 99.6     | 97.1       | -1.8              | -4.6                      | 0.8             |
| women   | 52.5      | 51.4     | 51.0       | -0.6              | -2.2                      | 1.6             |
| aged over 40                                      | 50.7      | 46.3     | 43.6       | -2.7              | -12.9                     | -1.5            |
| unemployed over 1 year                            | 55.8      | 52.0     | 48.6       | -2.4              | -11.0                     | -6.9            |
| D <b>Rate of registered unemployment (C/A), %</b> | 11.6      | 11.3     | 11.1       | -                 | -                         | -               |
| male  | 10.0      | 0.0      | 0.0        | -                 | -                         | -               |
| female  | 13.1      | 0.0      | 0.0        | -                 | -                         | -               |
| E <b>Job vacancies</b>                            | 11.6      | 10.1     | 12.3       | 1.9               | -2.7                      | -2.9            |
| for a fixed term, %                               | 74.4      | 70.9     | 75.2       | -                 | -                         | -               |

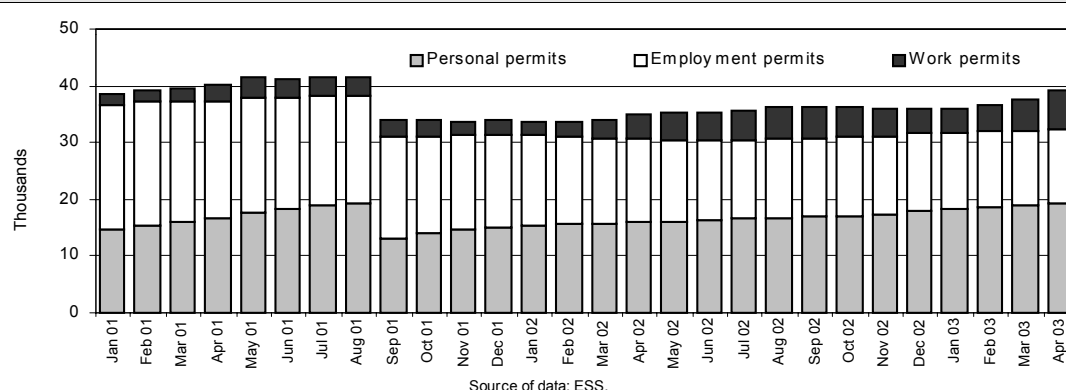
Sources of data: the SORS, the ESS, calculations by the IMAD.

In **April**, the number of people employed in enterprises and organisations continued to rise, while the number of farmers and individual private entrepreneurs dropped, so the total **number of people in formal employment** stayed roughly the same. The biggest fall was seen in the number of people employed in agriculture (down 4.8%), while the biggest rise was seen in the number of people employed in construction (up 1.4%) and financial intermediation (up 0.7%). As in previous spring months, the **number of registered unemployed** fell and totalled 95,262 at the end of **May**. There were fewer people who lost their jobs than in April or March, but there were also fewer people who got a job. There were 3,639 deletions from the unemployment registers, 1,060 of which were due to the transfer to a special register (see SEM 12/2002:14). The **number of vacancies** rose slightly in **May**, while the **number of people hired** fell markedly, totalling 12,466 and 9,390, respectively.

In the **first four months**, the average **number of people in formal employment** fell by 0.6% compared to the same period last year mainly due to the fall in the number of people employed in agriculture (down 11.5%). Excluding agriculture, the number would have roughly stagnated. The number of persons in employment also fell in mining (down 5.6%), financial intermediation (down 2.0%), hotels and restaurants (down 1.9%) and manufacturing (down 1.3%). The number stayed almost the same in distributive trades and transport. Employment rose in the remaining activities, the most in real estate, renting and business services (up 5.4%) and the public administration (up 5.0%). As far as manufacturing is concerned, the number of persons in employment fell the most in the textiles industry (down 9.5%), the manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products (down 4.2%) and the manufacture of leather and leather products (down 3.6%). The biggest rise was seen in the chemicals (up 5.4%) and rubber industries (up 4.1%). The sharp fall in the petroleum products industry was due to the statistical reclassification of some employees into the chemicals industry.

The **number of work permits for foreigners** has risen steadily since March 2002 (see graph) after the number fell significantly in 2001 because of the transitory provision of the Employment of Foreigners Act, stating that all foreigners who obtained their personal work permits on the basis of the old law must replace them with new permits by the end of June 2001. According to the Employment Service of Slovenia, the number of permits mainly rose for seasonal work and for people employed by a foreign employer, while the number of foreigners in regular employment did not rise. In April 2003, there were 39,321 valid work permits for foreigners (4.5% of people in formal employment), 19,231 of which were personal permits, enabling a foreigner a free entry to the Slovenian labour market, 12,977 were employment permits connected with the needs of employers, while 7,113 were work permits limited by duration and purpose. Foreigners mainly worked in construction, agriculture, the metal industry, hotels and restaurants, local utility services, and the textile industry. Most workers had a lower or vocational education.

Graph: **Work permits for foreigners in 2001-2003, broken down by months**



Source of data: ESS.