

Labour Market	Slovenian Economic Mirror	IMAD
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Selected labour market indicators		thousands			% growth		
		Ø 2002	Dec 2002	Sept 2003	Sept 03/ Aug 03	Jan-Sept 03/ Jan-Sept 02	Ø 2002/ Ø 2001
A	Registered labour force (A=B+C)	886.1	881.5	874.7	0.3	-1.3	0.6
B	Persons in employment	783.5	781.9	776.5	0.3	-0.8	0.6
	in enterprises and organisations	631.1	631.6	633.5	0.4	0.3	0.7
	by those self-employed	66.8	66.0	66.8	0.3	-1.2	-2.3
	self-employed and farmers	85.6	84.4	76.2	0.0	-8.4	1.7
C	Registered unemployed	102.6	99.6	98.2	0.0	-4.8	1.2
	women	52.5	51.4	52.7	-0.7	-1.5	1.1
	aged over 40	50.7	46.3	42.2	-2.0	-14.9	0.2
	unemployed over 1 year	55.8	52.0	46.9	-0.4	-14.0	-6.7
D	Rate of registered unemployment (C/A), %	11.6	11.3	11.2	-	-	-
	male	10.0	10.0	9.5	-	-	-
	female	13.1	12.8	13.4	-	-	-
E	Job vacancies	11.6	10.1	14.8	37.6	3.5	-2.9
	for a fixed term, %	74.4	70.9	75.5	-	-	-
F	No. of people hired	0.8	7.5	11.1	55.1	-1.0	0.6
	Lower education	2.3	2.1	2.6	11.5	3.4	-4.6
	Secondary education	0.1	4.2	5.1	29.2	-5.7	2.0
	Higher education	0.3	1.1	3.4	298.7	8.0	6.2

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

The number of persons in employment rose by 0.3% in September over August, or by 2,563, after falling by 0.8% in July and August together due to seasonal factors. These dynamics are usual for this time of year. They were mainly underpinned by recruitment in education (1,869), which accounted for close to three-quarters of the total employment growth in September, so it is hard to say that September's rise in employment was driven by any economic recovery. The number of registered unemployed climbed by just 760 in October to 98,925, significantly less than what is usually recorded in this period. October typically sees the last wave of first-time job-seekers who finished or dropped out of school. This inflow into unemployment was at the usually high level this year (6,037). Unlike in September, the inflow into unemployment caused by dismissals (5,646) was higher than the outflow into employment (4,864). Unemployment growth was below the usual seasonal levels chiefly due to high deletions from unemployment registers for other reasons (6,059; 2,739 of whom enrolled in training courses full time). The number of vacancies (13,460) was slightly lower than in September, while the number of people hired was significantly higher (16,852). Employment growth was the strongest in manufacturing and market-oriented services, which could suggest an economic recovery unless some administrative reasons are involved. The unemployment rate determined by the labour force survey stayed the same in the third over the second quarter (6.6%), which was a usual seasonal trend. The number of unemployed did not change either, with the share of unemployed women falling slightly. The number of persons in employment dropped, mainly that of persons in formal employment, while informal employment increased for seasonal reasons.

The Ministry of Education and Sport and the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs adopted the Programme of Training and Acquiring National Professional Qualifications/Certificates for the Unemployed in 2003/2004. The programme, previously called the 5,000 Programme, is now referred to as the **10,000 Programme** because the objective is to enrol 10,000 unemployed people each year in certified training courses in order to increase their employment prospects and improve the educational structure of the unemployed. The Programme is devised on a long-term basis. In the last five years it has attracted 18,555 people, with the average number of people enrolled in one school year exceeding 5,000 (see graph). Participants are enrolled on the basis of employment plans. They have to sign an enrolment contract with the Employment Service of Slovenia, which then covers some costs (fees, transport, lodging and other costs) up to a level defined in the Programme, while the contract also lays down the obligations for students. The participant and the Employment Service sign an annex to the contract for the next school year after the fulfilment of obligations for the previous year has been assessed.

Graph: Enrolment in the 5000 Programme in school years from 1998/1999 to 2002/2003

