

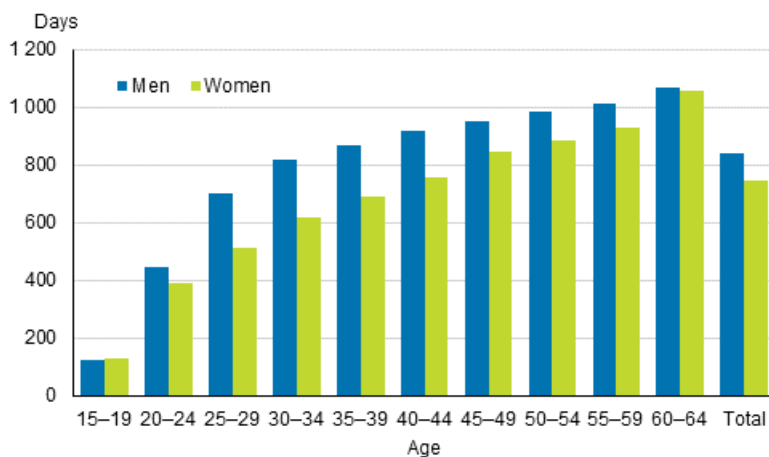
Employment 2017

Background information on unemployed persons

Average number of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period 801 for the unemployed at the end of 2017

According to Statistics Finland’s employment statistics, there were 296,000 unemployed persons at the end of 2017. On average, unemployed persons had accumulated over two years’ worth of unemployment days over a five-year period. On average, older unemployed persons had accumulated more unemployment days than younger ones and men more than women. Roughly every third unemployed person had been continuously unemployed for at least a year. The data on unemployment in the employment statistics are based on the data of the Register of Job Seekers of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment.

Average number of unemployment days of unemployed persons in a five-year period by age and sex



Persons that were unemployed at the end of 2017 had in the past five years (2013 to 2017) been unemployed for an average of 801 days. So over a five-year period, unemployed persons had accumulated, on average, over two years' worth of unemployment days. Unemployment days refer to days when a person has been an unemployed job seeker. Unemployment days could have accumulated during several different unemployment periods.

The average amount of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period was higher the older the person in question was. Those belonging to the oldest age group had been unemployed for an average of 1,065 days or in other words, for nearly three years in the past five years.

Men who were unemployed at the end of 2017 had been unemployed in the past five years for an average of 843 days and women for 748 days. The difference between the sexes was smallest among the youngest (aged 15 to 19) and oldest (aged 60 to 64) age groups. The difference was biggest among those aged 30 to 34: for men 822 days and for women 617 days.

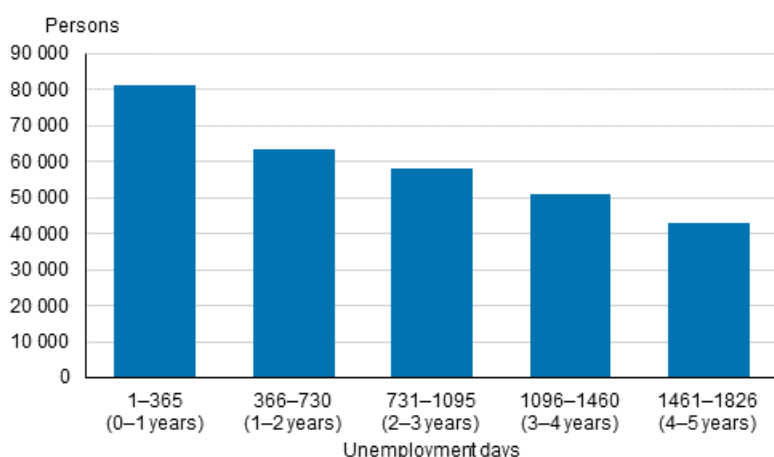
Almost the same number of unemployment days for completers of upper secondary and doctorate level education

Over the five year period, the fewest unemployment days, on average, had been accumulated for those with specialist vocational qualifications (653 days) and the second fewest for those with lower university level degrees (708 days), when examining the person's highest degree or qualification in 2016. Those with lowest level tertiary qualifications (893 days), doctorate level degrees (865 days) and upper secondary qualifications (829 days) had the most unemployment days. So according to this examination, higher education would not seem to affect the duration of unemployment.

43,000 persons unemployed for four years or more

Good one-quarter (81,000 persons) of those who had been unemployed at the end of 2017 had in the past five years been unemployed in total for one year or less. Nearly 43,000 persons or 14 per cent of those who were unemployed at the end of 2017 had been unemployed in total for four years or longer (1,461 to 1,826 days). In all, 7,305 persons had been unemployed for the entire reference period or 1,826 days. The vast majority of them (64 %) were men. Of those who had been unemployed for the entire five-year period, 61 per cent were aged 55 to 64.

Number of unemployed persons by unemployment day group



One-third of the unemployed were long-term unemployed

One-third (91,000) of those who were unemployed at the end of 2017 had been continuously unemployed for at least one year, i.e. they were long-term unemployed. One-half (46,800) of the long-term unemployed had been continuously unemployed for more than two years. A majority of the unemployed persons had, however, been unemployed for a shorter period: Forty per cent have been continuously unemployed for less than a hundred days.

In Mainland Finland, the share of long-term unemployed among all unemployed persons was lowest in South Ostrobothnia (18%) and in Kainuu (23%). The share was highest in Päijät-Häme (36%) and Uusimaa (34%).

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. The average number of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period (2013 to 2017) for persons who were unemployed at the end of 2017 by age group and sex

Age	Unemployment days on average		Unemployed, number	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
15-19	123	131	5,089	3,341
20-24	446	393	18,837	11,782
25-29	700	512	18,311	13,804
30-34	822	617	17,009	14,300
35-39	868	690	15,566	13,476
40-44	917	760	14,330	12,381
45-49	955	847	15,563	12,719
50-54	987	885	19,163	14,846
55-59	1,013	929	21,173	16,647
60-64	1,072	1,058	19,909	18,250
Total	843	748	164,950	131,546

Appendix table 2. The average number of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period (2013 to 2017) for persons who were unemployed at the end of 2017 by level of education

Level of education 2016	Unemployment days on average	Unemployed, number
Upper secondary education	829	143,546
Post-secondary non-tertiary education	653	1,395
Short-cycle tertiary education	893	19,558
Bachelor's or equivalent level	708	22,222
Master's or equivalent level	808	16,876
Doctoral or equivalent level	865	1,493
No post-basic level education or level of education unknown	759	91,406
Total	801	296,496

Appendix table 3. The number of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period (2013 to 2017) for persons who were unemployed at the end of 2017 by unemployment day group

Unemployment days	Unemployed, number	Share of all unemployed persons, %
1-365	81,372	27.44
366-730	63,563	21.44
731-1095	57,883	19.52
1096-1460	50,933	17.18
1461-1826	42,745	14.42
Total	296,496	100.00

Appendix table 4. The average number of unemployment days accumulated over a five-year period (2013 to 2017) for persons who were unemployed at the end of 2017 by region

Region	Unemployment days on average	Unemployed, number
Åland	584	573
South Karelia	787	8,339
South Ostrobothnia	686	8,034
Etelä-Savo	793	8,168
Kainuu	855	4,722
Kanta-Häme	773	8,311
Central Ostrobothnia	727	2,770
Central Finland	834	17,810
Kymenlaakso	829	11,826
Lapland	839	10,992
Pirkanmaa	792	28,724
Ostrobothnia	705	6,366
North Karelia	850	11,585
North Ostrobothnia	804	23,746
Pohjois-Savo	825	13,500
Päijät-Häme	868	13,354
Satakunta	789	11,404
Uusimaa	785	81,371
Varsinais-Suomi	820	24,901
Whole country	801	296,496

Appendix table 5. Number of persons who were unemployed at the end of 2017 and the share of long-term unemployed by region

Region	Unemployed	Long-term unemployed	Share of long-term unemployed, %
Åland	573	93	16.2
South Karelia	8,339	2,394	28.7
South Ostrobothnia	8,034	1,433	17.8
Etelä-Savo	8,168	2,169	26.6
Kainuu	4,722	1,075	22.8
Kanta-Häme	8,311	2,412	29.0
Central Ostrobothnia	2,770	669	24.2
Central Finland	17,810	4,452	25.0
Kymenlaakso	11,826	3,728	31.5
Lapland	10,992	2,913	26.5
Pirkanmaa	28,724	9,357	32.6
Ostrobothnia	6,366	1,783	28.0
North Karelia	11,585	3,851	33.2
North Ostrobothnia	23,746	6,971	29.4
Pohjois-Savo	13,500	4,051	30.0
Päijät-Häme	13,354	4,819	36.1
Satakunta	11,404	3,308	29.0
Uusimaa	81,371	27,795	34.2
Varsinais-Suomi	24,901	7,815	31.4
Whole country	296,496	91,088	30.7

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