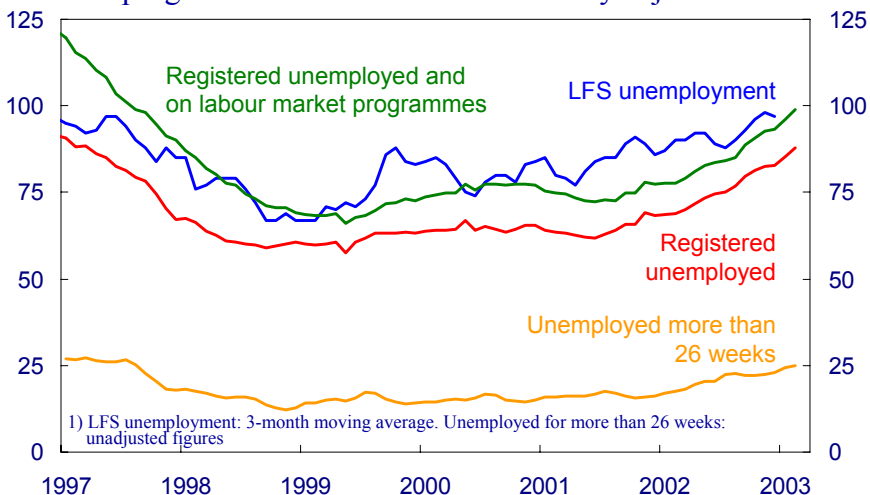


# Chapter 4

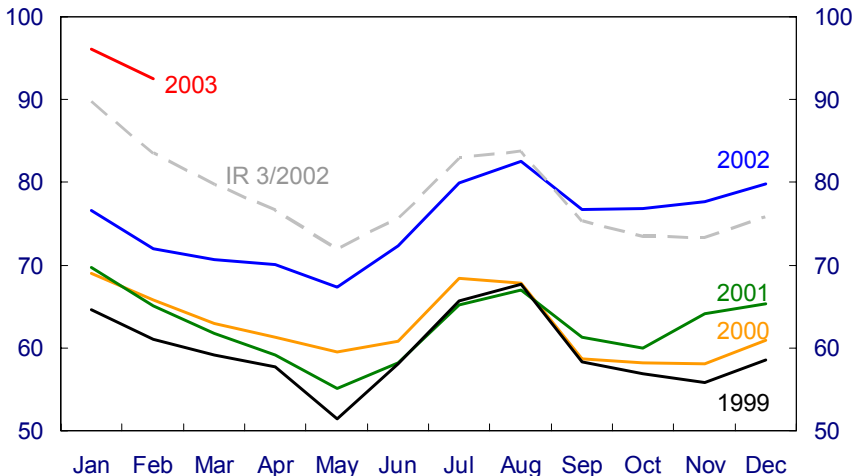
## The labour market

### 4.1 Number of unemployed (LFS), number of registered unemployed and persons on labour market programmes. In thousands. Seasonally adjusted<sup>1)</sup>



Sources: Statistics Norway and the Directorate of Labour

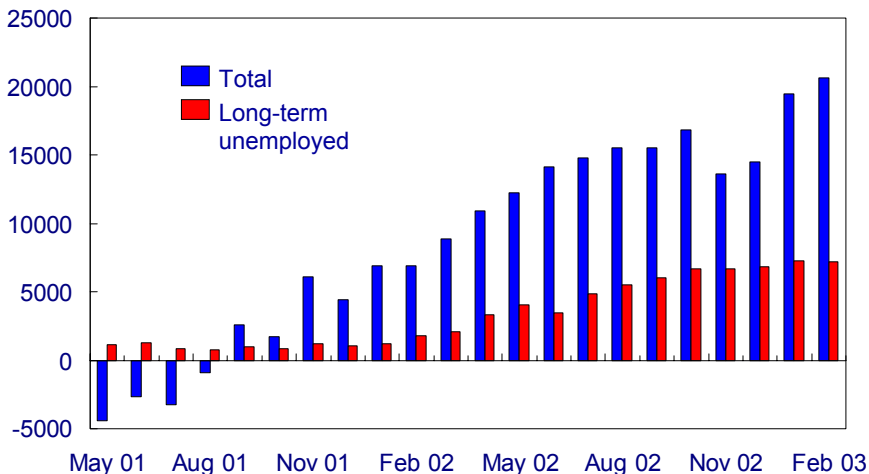
### 4.2 Registered unemployment In thousands



Source: Directorate of Labour

Hovedstyret mars 2003

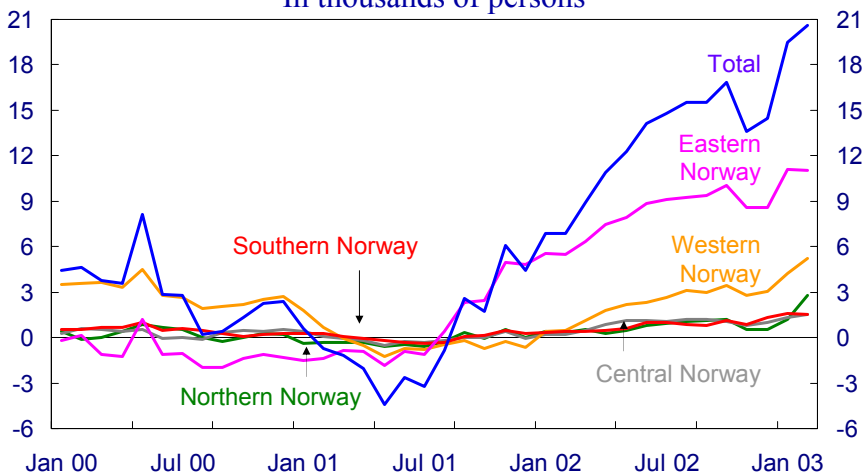
### 4.3 Change in number of unemployed on same month previous year Total number of unemployed and long-term unemployed



Source: Directorate of Labour

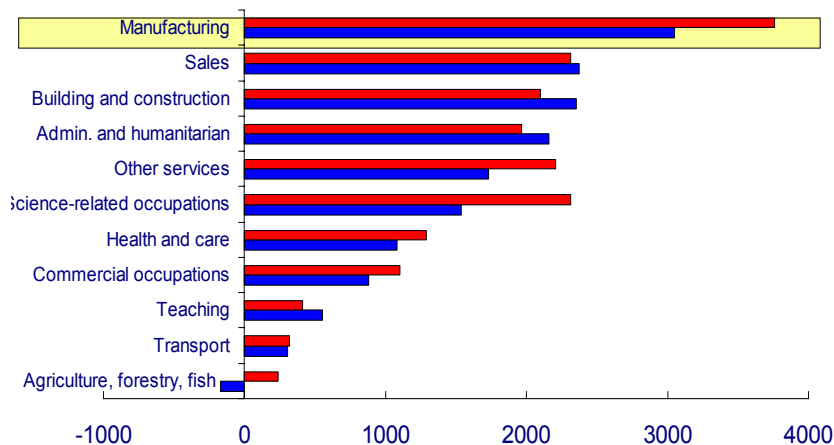
Hovedstyret mars 2003

### 4.4 Change in unemployment on same month previous year In thousands of persons



Source: Directorate of Labour

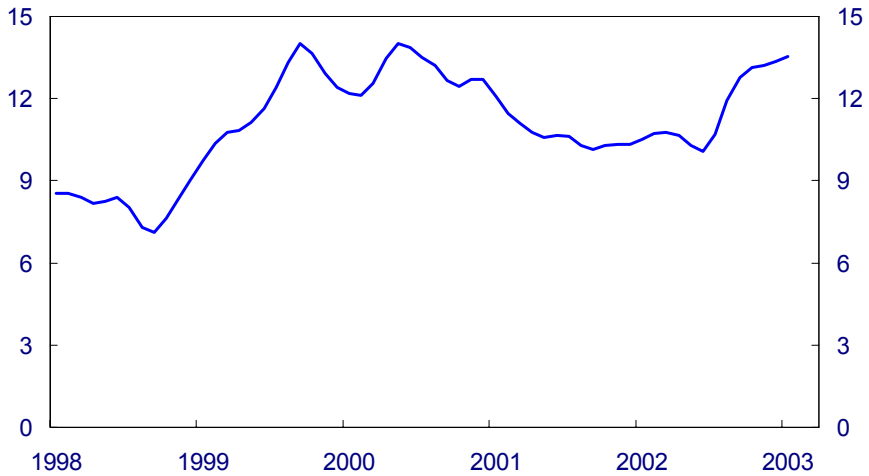
### 4.5 Change in unemployment by occupational group<sup>1)</sup> Jan. 2002 - Jan. 2002 (blue) and Feb. 2002 – Feb. 2003 (red)



<sup>1)</sup> In addition the item "specified / no occupational background" has risen by 3447 persons.

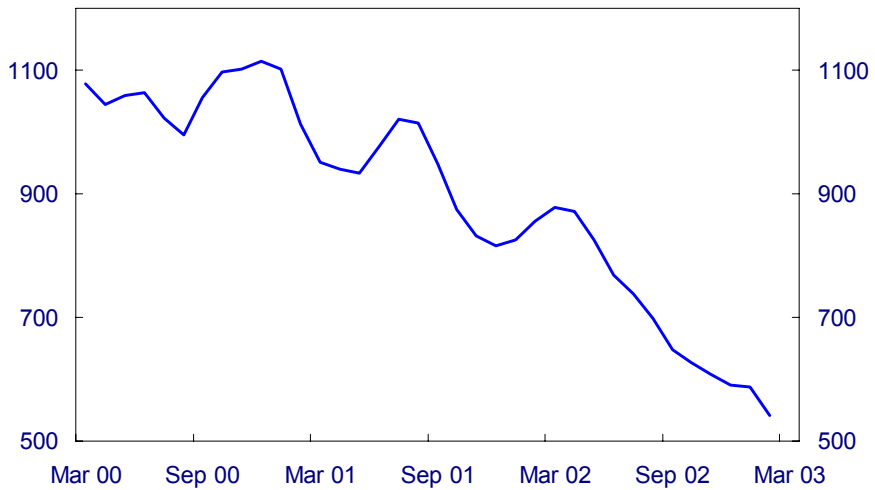
Source: Directorate of Labour

### 4.6 Number laid off In 1000s. Trend



Source: Directorate of Labour

### 4.7 Supply of positions announced only in the media (per business day). Trend



Source: Directorate of Labour

## 4.8 Wage settlements 2002- most recent update<sup>1</sup>

Annual wage growth in 2002:					Carry-over 2003	Wt
	Carry-over	Pay increase	Drift	Wage growth		
Blue-collar workers, LO/NHO	1.5	2.1	17	5.3	1.8	0.18
White-collar workers, LO/NHO	2.5	0.0	3.6	6.1	2.7	0.12
Retail trade	1.1	2.3	1.3	4.7	3.0	0.16
Hotels and restaurants	2.0	3.3	0.2	5.5	1.8	0.02
Commercial and savings banks	1.6	2.7	2.0	6.3	1.9	0.02
Insurance	1.6	2.7	1.7	6.0	1.7	0.01
Central government employment	1.7	3.2	0.6	5.5	3.5	0.10
Municipalities	1.4	4.5	0.1	6.0	4.5	0.18
Education	1.3	60	0.7	8.0	5.0	0.09
Commercial services	2.0	2.2	1.0	5.2	1.2	0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.00</b>

- 1) - Our estimates for blue- and white-collar workers covered by LO/NHO are based on figures from SN and TRCIS  
 - Annual wage growth for 'Hotels and restaurants' has been pushed down 0.5 percentage point as a result of a strike.  
 - Figures for municipalities are excluding academics (15 per cent of employees)

Sources: TRCIS, Statistics Norway and Norges Bank

Hovedstyret mars 2003

## 4.9 Incomes policy 2003

### Liaison Committee

Against this background, the Government and the social partners have agreed on the following:

- The total rise in labour costs in 2003 must be adapted to the challenges facing the internationally exposed business sector and the goal of full employment. It is crucial that the work to achieve this goal covers all groups. For a closer appraisal of the challenges facing the exposed sector in the years ahead, reference is made to the commission of experts that has been appointed.

Hovedstyret mars 2003

## 4.9 Incomes policy 2003 cont.

### The Liaison Committee

In connection with the interim settlement in 2003 the social partners will:

- Strive to achieve wage growth in Norway which is *more closely in line with* developments among our trading partners. The 2003 settlement must therefore be based on the situation in the internationally exposed business sector. The overall wage growth agreed centrally and locally for these industries must provide a norm for the pay increases negotiated in the other settlements. (our italics)
- At the same time, it is important that there is scope within these limits for changes in relative wages that ensure a smoothly functioning labour market and fair wage developments. Employers in the private and public sectors will work actively to achieve growth in managers' salaries that is within the framework of pay increases awarded to employees in general. In its capacity as owner in the business sector, the central government will also work to this end.

## 4.9 Incomes policy 2003 cont.

### LO's General Council 25 February

- Internationally exposed industries must provide a norm and a framework for wage settlements that safeguards competitiveness and employment in the long term. The framework must apply to all groups.
- The nominal scope for pay increases in this year's interim settlements is severely limited by the Regulatory Clause, employment considerations and hence the objective of wage growth that is *more closely in line with* trading partners. (our italics)
- Against this background, and within the respective limits, LO sets its priorities in accordance with the programme in 2002 for the wage agreement period, with special emphasis on the low-paid.