



MINISTRY  
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### *Women's prospects improved significantly on the Hungarian labour market*

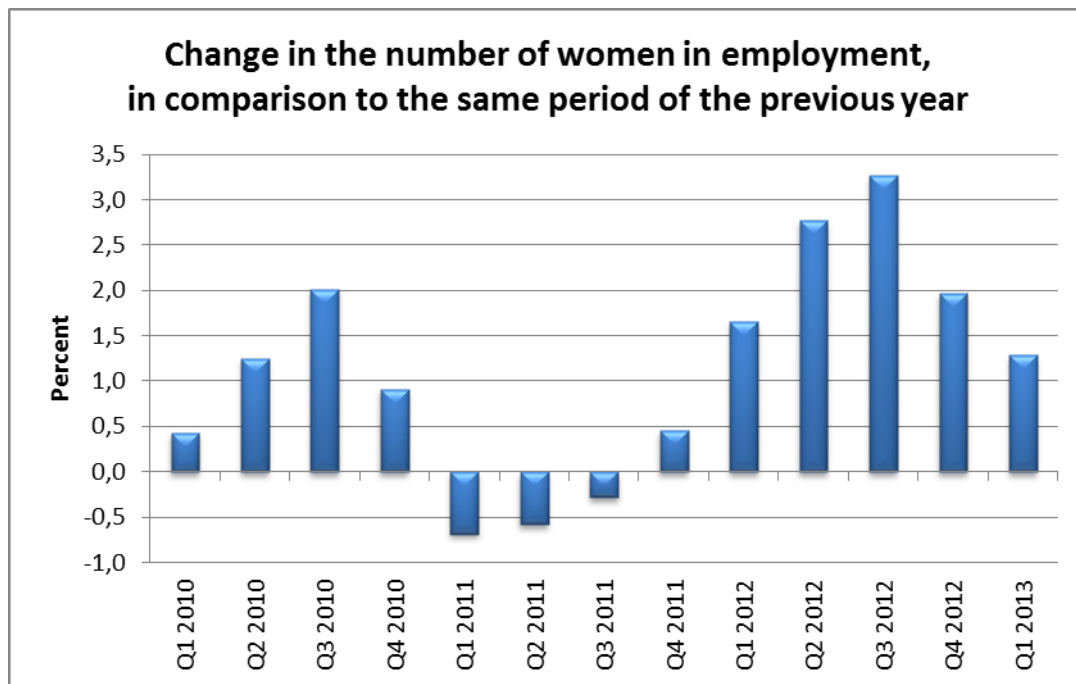
Even from a European perspective, the Government has achieved outstanding results in the field of employment in general and the job prospects of women in particular. This year, the positive effects of the Job Protection Plan promote further improvement with regard to women's employment. According to the latest data of the programme, which has been in place since January, in April job subsidies were applied for 27 thousand employees returning to work after their childcare allowance and maternity benefit period had ended. In addition, the Cabinet is planning to arrange new policies in order to improve the day-care facility network for small children and enhance the prospects of women seeking or returning to a job.

In 2012, the total number of people in employment within the age group of 15-64 years was up by 63 800 compared to 2011, and some 66 percent of the increase was attributable to women. Thus, last year was an extraordinary one from the aspect of women's employment: **the number of women in employment among those aged 15-64 years increased by 42 thousand, and their prospective employment rate was 52 percent.**

The latest data show that **this auspicious trend has been continuing this year.** In Hungary, the number of women in employment within the age bracket of 15-64 years was 1 765 500 in the first quarter of 2013. The number of female employees in January-March 2013 was 22 400 higher in comparison to the same period of the previous year, and this figure constitutes some 73 percent of total increase in employment (30 800 people). The **employment rate** among women aged 15-64 years edged up from 50 percent in Q1 2010 to **51.8 percent by Q1 2013.**

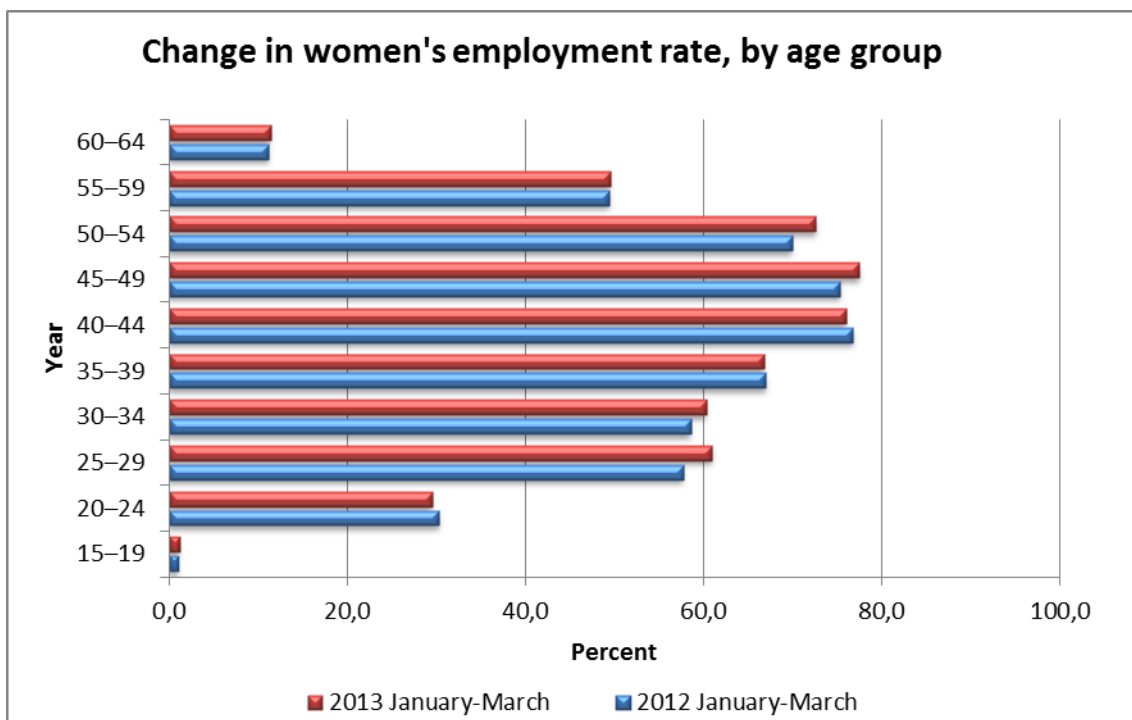


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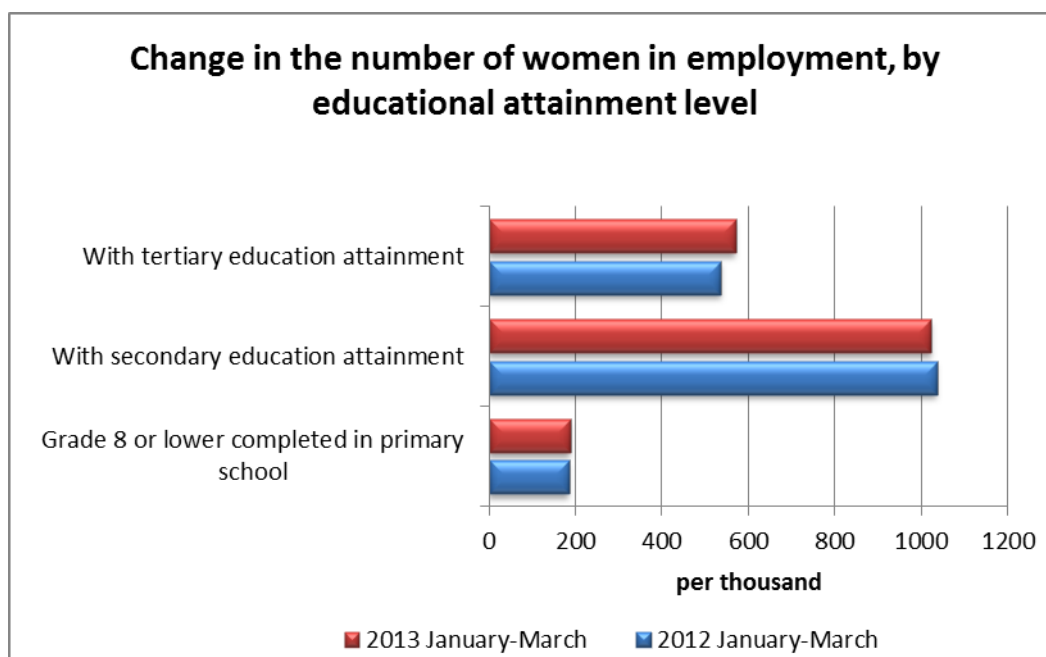
*Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH)*

**The employment rate of women increased in almost every age group in the first quarter of 2013 compared to the corresponding period of 2012; there is a slight decrease only among those aged 35-44 years and 20-24 years. The indicator shows the largest improvement among those aged 25-29 years, but the number of women in employment was also significantly higher in the age groups of 30-34 years, 45-49 years and 50-54 years.**



*Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH)*

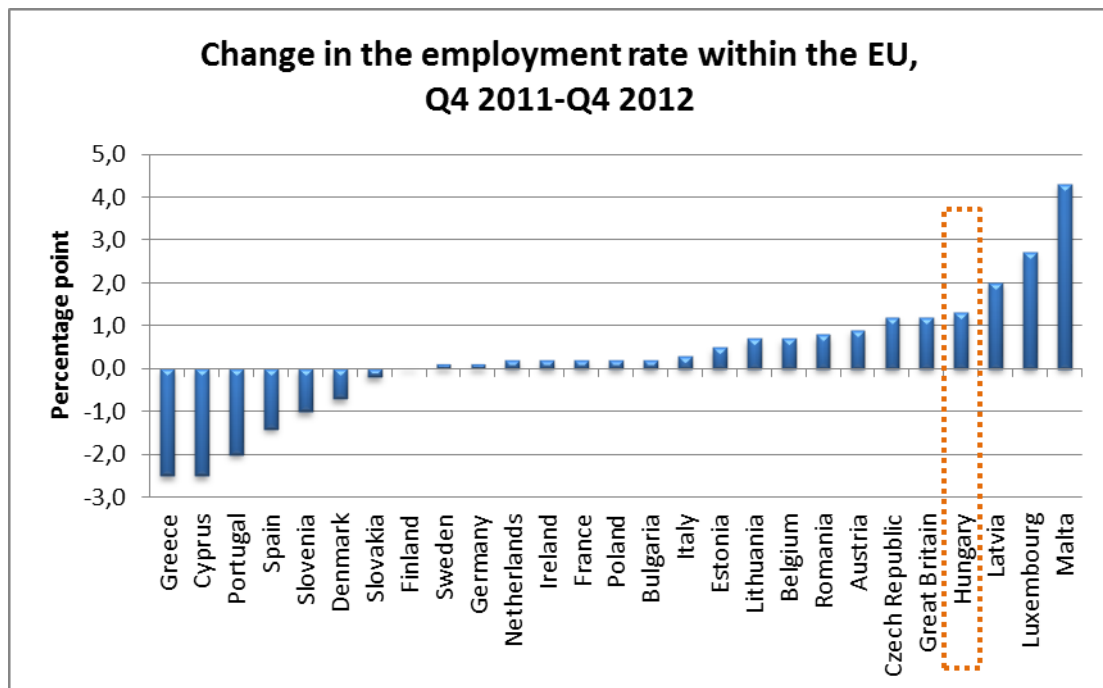
As far as the school attainment level is concerned, women's employment recorded the largest increase among those with tertiary education attainment: the number of women in employment was up by 33 400 in this category. The number of women with maximum secondary school attainment was down by 14 600, while the respective figure for those who have completed grade 8 or lower in primary school was higher.



*Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH)*

Among economic sectors with the highest share of female labour force, the number of women in employment increased to the largest extent in the field of **human health activities, welfare services, public administration, defence, compulsory social security activities, as well as professional, scientific and technical activities and education** compared to January-March 2012.

For making a comparison with European Union member countries, the latest data for the final quarter of 2012 may offer guidance. Although **Hungarian women's employment rate among those aged 15-64 years at 52.4 percent for this period is below the EU's respective figure of 58.7 percent, Hungary registered the fourth largest increase (1.3 percentage points) with respect to this rate compared to the level of one year ago.**



Source: Eurostat

The 10.7 percent unemployment rate for women aged 15-64 years for the final quarter of 2012 is on a par with the EU average (10.8 percent). In this front, a positive trend seems to be materializing, as while a steep rise was recorded in the EU compared to the level of one year ago (10.1 percent), in Hungary the unemployment rate among women showed improvement compared to the 10.9 percent figure registered in Q4 2011.

While Hungarian women's activity rate of 58.7 percent in the age group of 15-64 years recorded in Q4 2012 is below the EU's average (65.9 percent), Hungary has been closing the gap: in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year, the rate edged up by 1.3 percent, which figure exceeds the 0.8 percent improvement registered in the EU 27.