



Better times ahead

Insights from Brainville
Statistics

First half 2024



Growing opportunities for experts

The first half of 2024 showed promising signs for freelancers and consultants. Job postings were up with demand growing in the larger metropolitan areas.

Increased opportunities for project managers is another indication of better times ahead.

Brainville is the largest independent marketplace for freelancers and consultants in the Nordics. As an extension of brainville.com we have added [Brainville Statistics](#), where you can drill down in the statistics of your choice about the freelance and consulting industry. Brainville Statistics is updated on a monthly basis. This is an overview of the market development in the first half of 2024.

The market in numbers

H1 2024 vs H1 2023		H1 2024 vs H2 2023	
Published assignments	Remote work	Buyers' rate	Project manager assignments
+2.7%	-1.5%	-2.2%	+13%
Available consultants	Applications	Sellers' rate	Registrations
+14.1%	+29%	-2.5%	+27%

First half 2024



The number of assignments on offer increased in the first half of 2024 – only slightly compared to the corresponding period last year but significantly in relation to the previous six months.

In an unusual seasonal pattern job postings fell month on month during the first quarter, something that was more than made up for by an impressive increase in April.

– Since we began analyzing our statistics in 2017, we've observed a consistent

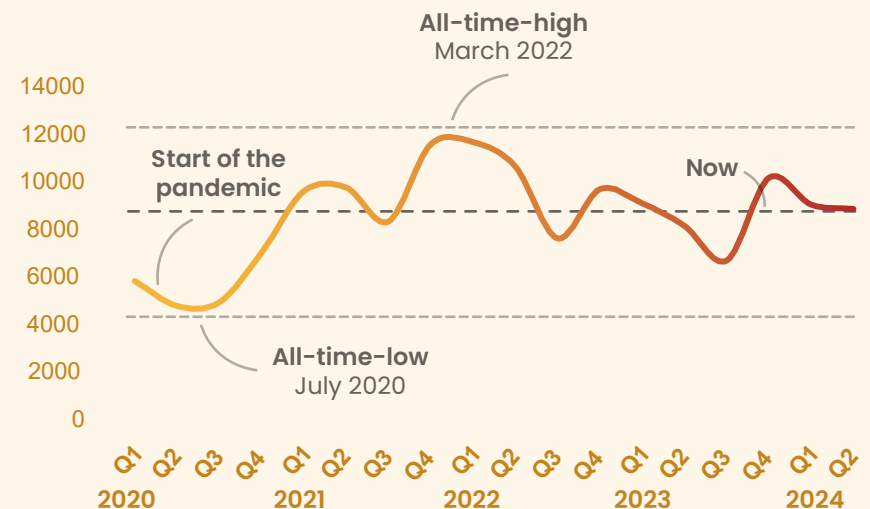
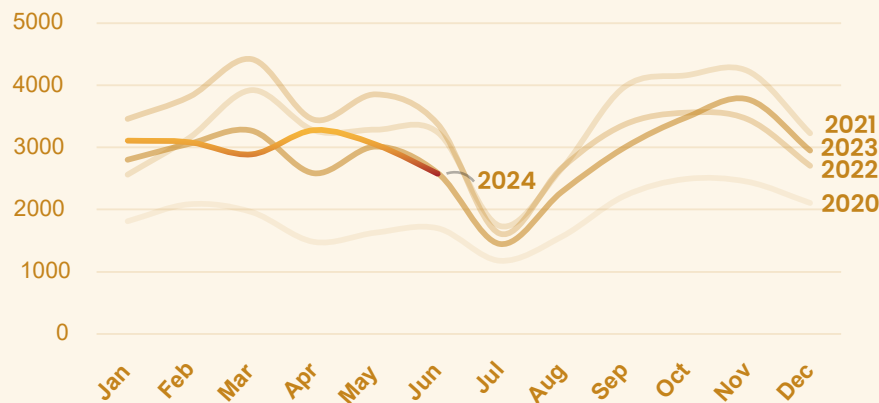
pattern: a peak in March, followed by a decline in April. This year, we've noticed a clear deviation with a peak as early as January, followed by a decline until March, and a significant increase in April. In this context, the slight decline in May and June seems reasonable, said Manuel de Verdier, CEO of Brainville.

After a sharp increase in 2023 the share of part-time assignments remained at a high level compared to previous years. But at the same time, demand in the large

metropolitan areas grew with the notable exception of Oslo, breaking the longstanding negative trend and offering a cautiously positive sign for consultants and freelancers. Another possibly good sign was a shift in the level of competence requested by buyers, with rising demand for more skilled and senior consultants.

– *In tougher times you might settle for any consultant, but in good times you want the right consultant and you allow yourself to bring in an expert,* said Manuel de Verdier.

Assignments



First half **2024**

Cut to the chase

**Show me the
current rates for roles!**

Rates in Brainville Statistics

First half 2024



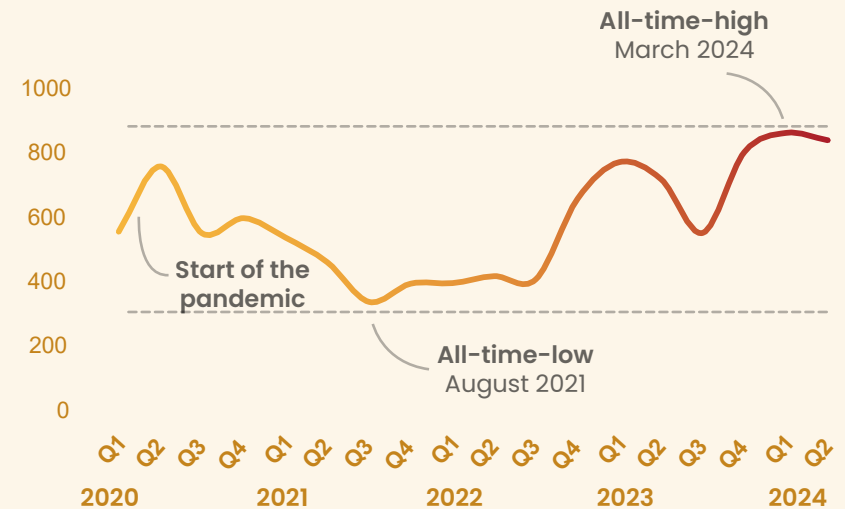
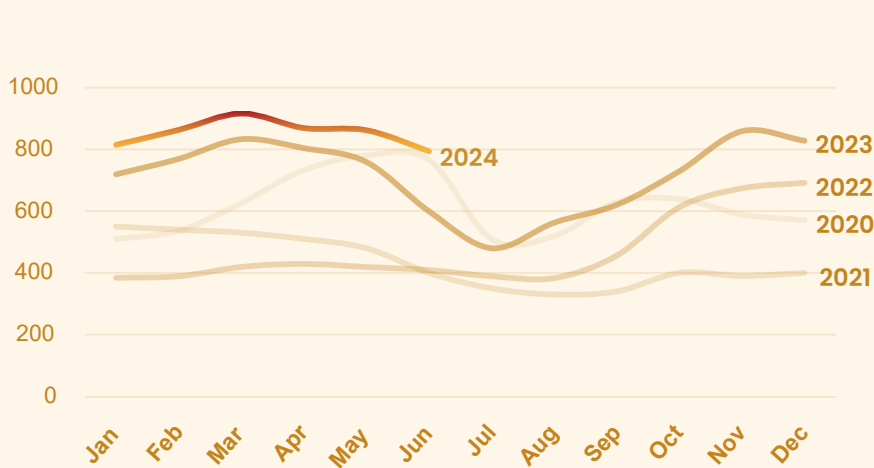
The number of available consultants increased in the first quarter, reaching an all time high in March. But that trend was reversed in the second quarter and by the half-year mark the number had dropped below the level at the start of the year. A positive sign, not least when considering that the Brainville platform kept growing during the period. Registrations of new consultants on the platform was up across markets with an increasing share of self employed and freelancers.

In other good news for consultants, the drop in demand in the IT & Telecom sector seen in previous years was halted in the first half of 2024. This was mirrored by increased opportunities in roles such as system developer, system architect and database consultant. There was also increased demand in the Technology & Engineering and Finance & Insurance sectors respectively, along with positive signs in Building & Construction as well as in Human Resources.

Another positive was the clear increase in demand for project managers and product owners. Increased opportunities for consultants in these roles is often due to more projects getting the green light to start and an early sign that better times lie ahead.

– A noteworthy observation is the rise in IT security projects compared to both the first and second halves of 2023, said Manuel de Verdier.

Available consultants



First half **2024**



The decreasing trend in the share of assignments allowing for remote work carried over from the later stages of 2023 and continued through the first half of 2024. The shift in the mix towards hybrid assignments, allowing only partially for remote work, also continued. Among the “remote assignments” the share of assignments allowing completely remote work has been more than halved in less than two years.

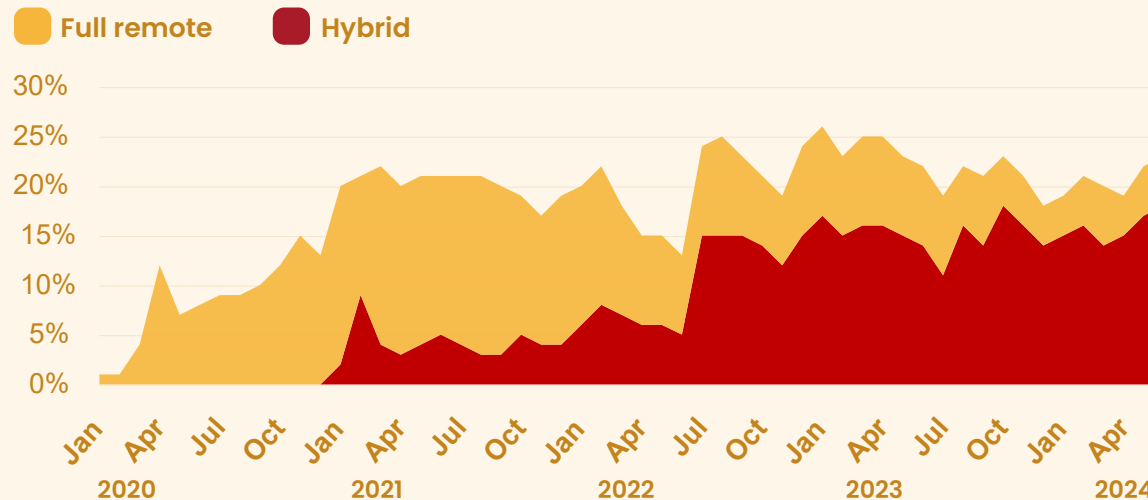
Prices were down on the Brainville platform during the first six months. Not surprising, considering that inflation in Brainville's main markets dropped during the period. Interestingly enough, buyers lowered their offered rates to more or less the exact same extent as consultants lowered their asking prices, leaving the price gap between them on average unchanged.

– The big picture here is an upturn in the market, despite the drop in prices. Higher

demand for project managers and developers is a very positive signal, even if the number of assignments isn't that much higher. It's an indication of more to come, said Manuel de Verdier.

Explore **Brainville Statistics** for current rates and further insights on market trends.

Remote work



First half **2024**

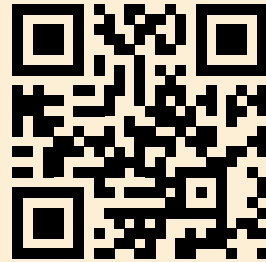
Buzzwords


Buzzwords are skills that appeared more frequently the last six months, compared to the previous six months.

Gateway	↗
Firewall	↗
SwiftUI	↗
Network switch	↗
Generative artificial intelligence	↗
Project Management Methodologies	↗
SystemWeaver	↗
Mulesoft	↗
Looker	↗
CANoe	↗



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https://bit.ly/BS_H1_2024



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