



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Unemployment among young people down by half***

The number of registered unemployed in May-July 2000 stands at 171 thousand, down 38 thousand on the same period last year. It means that unemployment fell by an average of 3 thousand a month. Unemployment among young people went down significantly this last year and stands at 18 thousand. Compared to a year ago unemployment among young people was halved, according to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands.

### ***Registered unemployment May-July***

The number of registered unemployed averaged 171 thousand in the months May-July. Unemployment is always lower in this time of the year due to seasonal influences. The seasonally corrected unemployment figure is 187 thousand, down 4 thousand on April-June.

Unemployment figures have shown substantial fluctuation since the end of 1999. A rapid drop was followed by a slight increase in the spring and a slight drop again in recent months. Since the figures are based on a sample survey they have a considerable margin of error. Therefore the trend in unemployment can only be determined over a fairly long period. Compared with the same period a year ago there are 38 thousand fewer people unemployed, which constitutes a drop of about 3 thousand a month.

### ***Unemployment among young people nearly halved***

In May-July some 18 thousand people in the age group up to 25 were registered as unemployed. Young people benefited greatly from the positive labour market situation in recent years. Last year unemployment among young people fell substantially again. A year ago 1 in 25 young people in the labour force was unemployed, this year that figure is down to 1 in 50. This means that the figure was nearly halved in the last twelve months, whereas unemployment among the other groups only saw a slight decrease.

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