



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Registered unemployment lower***

In the second quarter of this year the number of people registered as unemployed was on average 216 thousand, just over fifty thousand fewer than in the second quarter of 1998. Figures just released by Statistics Netherlands show that unemployment has fallen by an average of just over four thousand people a month for the last twelve months.

### ***Registered unemployment in the second quarter***

For the months April to June of this year, registered unemployment was on average 216 thousand. Seasonal effects usually curb unemployment in the second quarter, but after correction for these effects, unemployment is still 12 thousand down on the figure for the first quarter of the year, continuing the recent decrease into the first half of this year.

### ***Fall of over four thousand a month in last year***

Unemployment figures are based on a sample survey and are therefore subject to a certain margin of error. The trend in unemployment is best viewed over a longer period of time. Compared with the second quarter of 1998, unemployment was 54 thousand lower in 1999. On average therefore it has fallen by an average of over four thousand a month for the last twelve months.

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