PR99-239 16 September 1999 9.30 hrs

Fall in registered unemployment

Registered unemployment in the Netherlands fell further in the period June-August, according to figures just released by Statistics Netherlands. Although the figure was slightly higher than in the preceding period, once seasonal effects are removed, unemployment was five thousand lower, continuing the rate at which it has been falling in recent months.

Unemployment continues to fall

In the Netherlands 213 thousand people were registered as unemployed in the period June-August 1999, that is a few thousand more than in the period May-July. However, the influx of school-leavers usually pushes the number of unemployed up by ten thousand, and once this effect is eliminated the new unemployment rate comes out five thousand lower than in the period May-July.

Unemployment falling at a rate of five thousand a month

As statistics on registered unemployment are based on a sample survey and therefore have a margin of error, the trend in unemployment is better viewed over a longer period. Compared with the same period last year 60 thousand fewer people were unemployed in the period June-August this year. So unemployment has fallen by an average five thousand people a month in the last year.

Statistics Netherlands Press Office

P.O. Box 4000 2270 JM Voorburg The Netherlands tel. +31 70 337 58 16 fax +31 70 337 59 71 e-mail: persdienst@cbs.nl For further information, please contact Ms. A. Boelens, tel. +31 45 570 72 10; e-mail: abns@cbs.nl.

Statistics Netherlands is a department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs