



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Registered unemployment continues to fall

The number of unemployed has fallen again. In the months December-February average unemployment in the Netherlands was 201 thousand, according to the latest figures from Statistics Netherlands, over sixty thousand down on the same period last year. This is the equivalent of an average monthly decrease of five thousand in the past year.

Unemployment continues to fall

In the months December 1999-February 2000, the number of registered unemployed people in the Netherlands was 201 thousand, the same as in the period November 1999-January 2000. Seasonal effects usually push up unemployment at the beginning of the year. Once these effects have been removed, the new figure is five thousand lower than in the previous three-month period, continuing the downward trend.

Decrease by five thousand a month

As unemployment figures are based on a sample survey, they are subject to a certain margin of error. Therefore the trend in unemployment is best considered in a longer term perspective. Compared with one year ago, unemployment has fallen by 62 thousand people, the equivalent of just over five thousand people a month. Unemployment has been decreasing at this rate for one and a half years now. Before that the fall was slightly faster.

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