

PR01-068 29 March 2001 9.30 hrs

Job vacancies still increasing

The number of job vacancies is still growing. According to Statistics Netherlands there were 21 thousand more vacancies at the end of December 2000 than one year previously, bringing the number of available jobs in the private sector to 189 thousand. The IT industry was one of the few sectors where the number of vacancies did not increase.

Strong recovery follows seasonal dip

Following the usual decline in the summer, the number of job vacancies climbed strongly again in the last months of last year. This increase pushed up the number of available jobs to 21 thousand above the level of twelve months previously, indicating that the number of vacancies in the Netherlands is still growing. In the fourth quarter of 2000, 237 thousand jobs became available, nearly 30 thousand more than in the fourth quarter of 1999.

Vacancies in IT stable

The largest rise in the number of vacancies was reported in business services. At the end of last year there were 9 thousand more vacancies in this sector than one year previously. However, the number of vacancies remained unchanged in the IT sector, one of the industries making up business services. In the transport and communications sector the number of available jobs even fell.

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

Statistics Netherlands is a department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs

Growth mainly in large companies

Large companies account for most of the increase in the number of vacancies. The number of available jobs fell slightly for smaller companies.

For further information please contact J. Langenberg, +31 70 337 43 61; e-mail: hlng@cbs.nl.