

Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Unemployment down

According to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands the number of registered unemployed in the second quarter of 2001 was 132 thousand. In the last twelve months the unemployment figure fell by an average of 3 to 4 thousand a month.

Unemployment trends

In the second quarter the number of registered unemployed was 132 thousand, substantially fewer than in the first quarter of the year. A drop in unemployment is not unusual in this period due to seasonal effects. After corrections for the seasonal effects the second quarter unemployment figure was down 9 thousand on the first quarter.

Because the figures are based on a sample survey they have a fairly large margin of error. This means that the trend in unemployment can best be determined over a longer period. Compared to a year ago the unemployment figure is down by 41 thousand. This constitutes a drop of 3 to 4 thousand a month.

The unemployment figure for April-June was 10 thousand higher than that for March-May. However, this doesn't mean that unemployment is on the increase again. The difference is well within the sample survey's margin of error.

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Table 1. Registered unemployed 1)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
x 1 000												
Original figures												
1995	484	497	477	465	446	445	453	453	450	451	459	463
1996	468	469	465	441	418	415	433	441	438	431	432	437
1997	429	415	399	381	376	378	379	372	351	349	336	340
1998	346	346	318	289	270	270	273	271	265	262	260	265
1999	263	265	246	227	216	209	213	212	211	206	189	201
2000	201	217	201	195	173	171	169	176	181	190	186	187
2001	184	176	155	134	132							
Year-on-year changes												
1995	-11	-23	-23	-18	-15	-20	-17	-31	-34	-39	-21	-29
1996	-16	-28	-12	-24	-28	-30	-20	-12	-12	-20	-27	-26
1997	-39	-54	-66	-60	-42	-37	-54	-69	-87	-82	-96	-97
1998	-83	-69	-81	-92	-106	-108	-106	-101	-86	-87	-76	-75
1999	-83	-81	-72	-62	-54	-61	-60	-59	-54	-56	-71	-64
2000	-62	-48	-45	-32	-43	-38	-44	-36	-30	-16	-3	-14
2001	-17	-41	-46	-61	-41							
Seasonally corrected figures												
1995	470	480	467	470	463	459	460	455	452	451	459	455
1996	456	451	455	446	435	430	440	443	441	431	433	428
1997	416	398	390	386	393	393	386	373	353	348	336	330
1998	333	328	309	294	287	285	280	273	267	262	260	256
1999	250	248	238	231	233	223	221	214	213	206	189	192
2000	188	199	193	200	190	185	177	178	183	189	186	179
2001	171	158	147	139	149							
Average monthly change in the last three months												
1995	-7	0	-6	0	-6	-3	-3	-3	-2	-3	1	1
1996	2	-3	0	-3	-5	-8	-2	3	4	-3	-3	-4
1997	-5	-12	-13	-10	-2	1	0	-7	-13	-13	-12	-8
1998	-5	-3	-7	-13	-14	-8	-5	-5	-6	-6	-4	-4
1999	-4	-4	-6	-6	-5	-5	-3	-6	-3	-5	-8	-7
2000	-6	3	0	4	-3	-3	-8	-4	-1	4	3	-1
2001	-6	-9	-11	-11	-3							

Source: Statistics Netherlands.

1) Three monthly average taken in second month.

Table 2. Registered unemployed by sex, age and registration

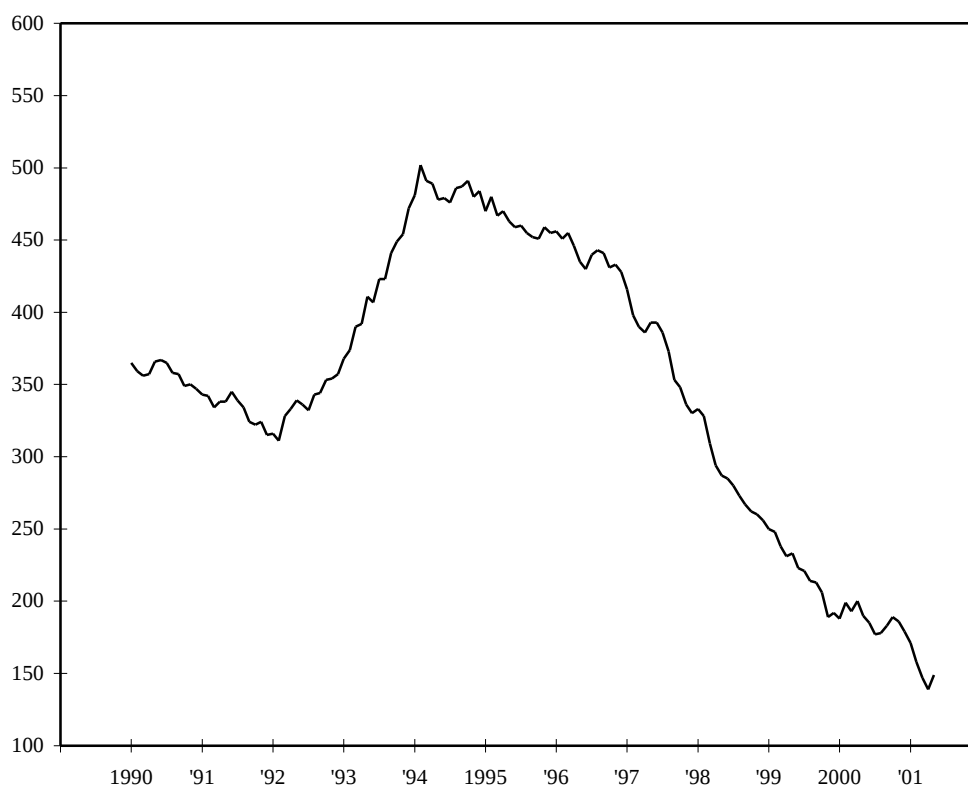
	Sex		Registration		Total	Unemployment percentage
	man	woman	<1 year	≥ 1 year		
<i>x 1 000</i>						
1995	260	204	217	247	464	7.0
1996	240	201	219	221	440	6.6
1997	199	176	180	195	375	5.5
1998	155	132	132	155	287	4.1
1999	115	106	110	111	221	3.1
2000	98	90	106	82	188	2.6
Apr.'00-Jun.'00	91	82	95	78	173	2.4
Apr.'01-Jun.'01	72	61	80	52	132	1.8 *

Source: CBS.

* preliminary figures as a percentage of the labour force 2000.

Registered unemployed, seasonally corrected figures

Geregistreerde werklozen na verwijdering van seizoensinvloeden

x 1 000

Source: Statistics Netherlands