



Press release

PB03-11
17 January 2003
9:30 AM

Unemployment up in 2002

The number of registered unemployed averaged 170 thousand in 2002. This is 24 thousand more than in 2001, a year when unemployment was still falling. According to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands, the average number of people registered as unemployed was 182 thousand in the fourth quarter of 2002.

Unemployment increases as job growth decreases

The average number of registered unemployed for the year 2002 was 170 thousand. This was up 24 thousand on 2001. Unemployment in 2001 was down by 42 thousand on 2000. The turnaround was caused by the economic slowdown and subsequent slump in the employment growth rate. Around June of 2002 the jobs of employees still increased by about 70 thousand, which kept unemployment increases in check.

Unemployment increases among men and women

Within one year's time registered unemployment among men increased by 14 thousand and among women by 10 thousand. So, unemployment increased among both men and women. Registered unemployment among women, however, remains higher than among men. In 2002 the number of women registered as unemployed was 2.6 percent, against 2.1 percent of men. Because many women who are looking for work are not actually registered at the CWI, the employment exchange, the actual differences in unemployment between men and women are even greater.

Unemployment up by 4 thousand a month

In the fourth quarter of 2002 the number of registered unemployed was 182 thousand. The latest seasonally corrected unemployment figure was up by 6 thousand on the third quarter. Compared to the same period in 2001, the number of registered unemployed was 47 thousand higher. This comes down to an average increase of 4 thousand a month.

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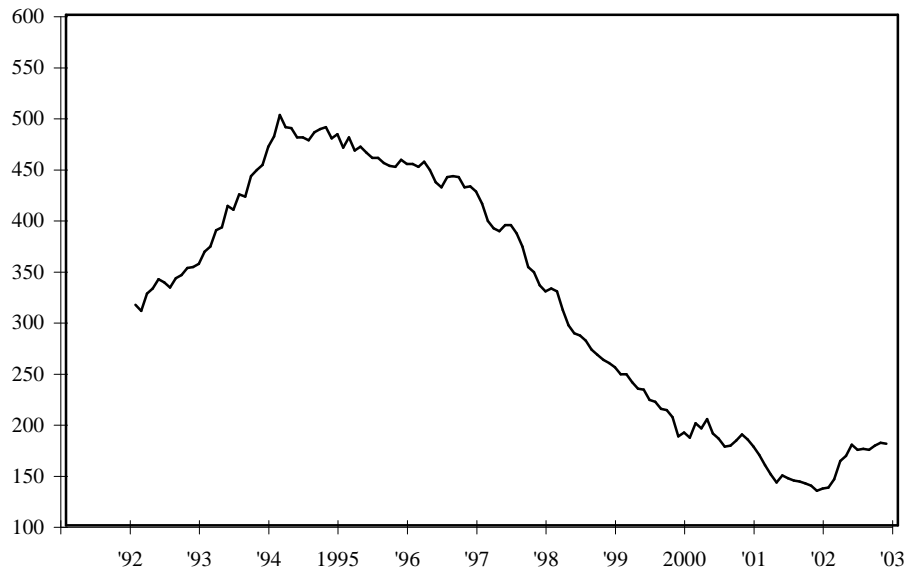
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Registered unemployment
seasonally corrected figure
x 1 000



Source: Statistics Netherlands