



# Press release

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## ***Unemployment almost unchanged***

- **No further unemployment growth in the past two months**
- **More job seekers registered at UWV than a month ago**
- **270 thousand WW benefits in December**

According to the latest figures released by Statistics Netherlands, 456 thousand people in the Netherlands were registered as unemployed (5.8 percent of the labour force) in December last year, as many as in November. The figure is corrected for seasonal variation.

Figures released by the Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances (UWV) show that the number of registered job seekers as well as the number of unemployment (WW) benefits were higher in December than in November.

### ***Average unemployment rate in 2011 the same as in 2010***

An average 5.4 percent of the labour force were unemployed in 2011, the same rate as in 2010, when unemployment dropped throughout the year. The decline did not continue in 2011.

Over the first six months of last year, unemployment hardly changed. Unemployment grew in July, August, September and October, but remained stable in November and December.

With 9.8 percent, the unemployment rate in 2011 among 15 to 25-year-olds was nearly 2 percentage points down on 2010, but the rate among over-25s was marginally higher than in 2010.

### ***As many young job seekers registered at UWV as by the end of 2010***

The UWV registered 473 thousand unemployed job seekers in December, an decrease by 17 thousand from one year previously. The number of job seekers under the age of 25 was on the same level as twelve months ago. The number of job seekers registered at the UWV increased by 10 thousand relative to November.

### ***Fewer WW benefits terminated due to work resumption***

In December last year, 270 thousand WW benefits were granted, nearly 1 percent fewer than a year ago; 43 thousand new WW benefits were granted, almost as many as in December 2010. The number of WW benefits terminated due to work resumption was lower by the end of 2011 than by the end of 2010. This is partly due to part-time WW, still in force in 2010.

**Table 1. Unemployed labour force, monthly figures**

	Seasonally adjusted			Not seasonally adjusted
	total	Monthly change <sup>1</sup>	% of the labour force	total
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000
2011				
December	456	1	5.8	427
November	455	-1	5.8	448
October	455	17	5.8	444
September	438	17	5.6	427
August	421	8	5.4	392
July	413	22	5.3	447
June	392	-9	5.0	400
May	400	8	5.1	401
April	392	-3	5.0	392
March	395	-5	5.1	415
February	400	2	5.1	430
January	398	-3	5.1	409
2010				
December	401	-8	5.1	373
November	409	-1	5.2	403
October	410	-2	5.2	394
September	412	-2	5.3	396
August	414	-12	5.3	386
July	426	-4	5.5	449
June	430	-5	5.5	441
May	435	-1	5.6	432
April	436	-10	5.6	437
March	446	-6	5.7	468
February	452	4	5.8	478
January	448	13	5.7	456

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**<sup>1</sup> Changes are calculated on rounded data. The figures presented in these tables are rounded off.

**Table 2. Unemployed labour force by age and gender, monthly figures (seasonally adjusted)**

	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	men	women	total
<i>x 1,000</i>						
2011						
December	91	206	159	244	211	456
November	87	208	160	241	214	455
October	91	206	158	242	214	455
September	91	193	153	232	206	438
August	84	186	151	224	197	421
July	85	178	151	221	192	413
June	78	171	143	211	181	392
May	78	171	151	218	182	400
April	75	169	147	218	174	392
March	77	168	150	215	181	395
February	79	173	148	210	190	400
January	80	168	150	206	192	398
2010						
December	87	167	146	203	198	401
November	93	173	145	208	201	409
October	93	174	143	206	203	410
September	92	178	143	207	205	412
August	94	176	144	213	201	414
July	99	181	147	215	211	426
June	102	181	148	220	211	430
May	108	181	147	224	212	435
April	110	182	144	224	212	436
March	111	189	146	231	215	446
February	110	196	146	236	216	452
January	111	195	141	237	211	448

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**

**Table 3. Unemployed labour force by age and gender, annual figures**

	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	men	women	total	% of the labour force
<i>x 1,000</i>							%
2011	83	184	152	224	195	419	5.4
2010	100	181	145	218	208	426	5.4
2009	99	159	119	197	180	377	4.8
2008	76	120	104	142	158	300	3.8
2007	82	139	123	154	190	344	4.5
2006	88	186	136	191	219	410	5.5
2005	108	235	139	236	245	482	6.5
2004	116	234	125	247	229	476	6.4
2003	96	202	98	206	190	396	5.4

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**

**Tabel 4. Unemployed job seekers (nww) by gender, age and region**

	Dec 2011	Nov 2011	Monthly change	Dec 2010	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
NWW total	472.8	462.9	2.1	489.8	-3.5
Gender					
Men	246.3	236.5	4.1	255.8	-3.7
Women	226.5	226.4	0.1	234.0	-3.2
Age					
<25 yrs	38.6	37.3	3.5	38.4	0.5
25-34 yrs	89.4	86.3	3.6	90.4	-1.1
35-44 yrs	110.8	108.7	1.9	121.4	-8.7
45-64 yrs	233.9	230.5	1.5	239.5	-2.3
Province					
Groningen	21.3	20.7	3.0	22.7	-6.2
Friesland	22.9	21.7	5.6	21.6	6.1
Drenthe	15.7	14.9	5.6	16.4	-4.3
Overijssel	35.1	32.9	6.6	35.4	-0.7
Flevoland	13.4	13.3	1.0	13.0	3.1
Gelderland	53.1	52.3	1.4	55.1	-3.7
Utrecht	24.6	24.7	-0.1	25.2	-2.3
North Holland	68.6	68.7	-0.2	77.7	-11.7
South Holland	113.2	111.5	1.6	109.9	3.1
Zeeland	7.8	7.3	6.1	7.8	-0.1
North Brabant	62.4	61.1	2.2	67.2	-7.1
Limburg	34.3	33.4	2.7	37.2	-7.8
abroad/unknown	0.3	0.3		0.5	
Major municipalities					
Amsterdam	28.3	28.6	-0.9	36.1	-21.5
Rotterdam	36.2	35.7	1.3	34.7	4.4
The Hague	20.5	19.7	4.1	19.2	6.6
Utrecht	7.4	7.5	-0.7	7.5	-1.3

**Source: UWV**