

## Press release

PB13-079 | 19 December 2013 | 15:00 hrs

# Unemployment down

- Unemployed labour force reduced by 21 thousand in November
- Number of current WW benefits up by 11 thousand
- Increase WW benefits mainly in sectors easily affected by seasonal variation

According to the most recent figures released by Statistics Netherlands (CBS), seasonally adjusted unemployment was reduced by 21 thousand to 653 thousand in November 2013, i.e. 8.2 percent in the labour force.

Figures released by the Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances (Uwv) illustrate that the number of unemployment (WW) benefits increased by 11 thousand to 419 thousand in November.

## Unemployment further down

In November, 8.2 percent in the Dutch labour force were unemployed versus 8.5 percent in October. Unemployment was reduced in the past month among both genders and across all age categories.

On average, the number of unemployed fell by 10 thousand each month over the last three months. The reduction is partly due to the fact that many people withdrew from the labour market.

According to the definition used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), 6.9 percent in the labour force were unemployed versus 7.0 percent in October.

## Substantial growth young recipients WW benefits

In November this year, 419 thousand WW benefits were granted, i.e. 3 percent more than in October. The increase was predominantly found in sectors easily affected by seasonal variation, like agriculture, hotels and restaurants and construction.

The number of current WW benefits granted to young people under the age of 25 increased above average (6 percent). The increase in the number of WW benefits was also above average in the provinces of Zeeland and Drenthe.

In November, 51 thousand new WW benefits were granted and 40 thousand were terminated.

**Table 1. Unemployed labour force, monthly figures<sup>1</sup>**

	Seasonally adjusted			Not seasonally adjusted	
	total	monthly change	average monthly change over three months	% in the labour force	total
	x 1,000	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000
2013					
November	653	-21	-10	8.2	641
October	674	-11	-7	8.5	662
September	685	2	3	8.6	670
August	683	-11	8	8.6	644
July	694	19	14	8.7	725
June	675	16	11	8.5	678
May	659	9	15	8.3	654
April	650	7	19	8.2	650
March	643	30	24	8.1	661
February	613	21	20	7.7	638
January	592	21	19	7.5	608
2012					
December	571	19	17	7.2	543
November	552	16	13	7.0	547
October	536	17	9	6.8	529
September	519	5	8	6.6	508
August	514	4	8	6.5	483
July	510	15	7	6.5	544
June	495	6	10	6.3	498
May	489	0	9	6.2	485
April	489	24	7	6.2	490
March	465	2	3	5.9	482
February	463	-5	3	5.9	490
January	468	12	4	5.9	480

Source: CBS.

<sup>1</sup> Detailed data available on StatLine:

[Unemployed and employed labour force per month](#)

Detailed data on the basis of the ILO definition available on StatLine:

[Unemployed and employed labour force per month; ILO definition](#)

**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
		x 1,000					
2013	November	132	280	241	350	303	653
	October	137	286	252	358	316	674
	September	140	292	253	364	321	685
	August	137	292	254	366	316	683
	July	148	291	255	375	319	694
	June	143	280	252	372	303	675
	May	137	278	243	363	296	659
	April	141	274	236	358	293	650
	March	138	274	231	350	293	643
	February	135	258	220	333	280	613
	January	131	249	212	320	272	592
2012	December	124	240	206	306	265	571
	November	119	235	198	295	256	552
	October	115	230	191	288	248	536
	September	111	225	183	281	238	519
	August	111	225	179	281	233	514
	July	106	228	176	279	231	510
	June	105	218	173	267	228	495
	May	104	210	176	266	223	489
	April	104	209	176	266	223	489
	March	102	198	165	252	213	465
	February	101	200	162	251	212	463
	January	96	208	164	252	216	468

Source: CBS.

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

	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	men	women	total	% in the labour force
	x 1,000						%
2012	108	219	178	274	233	507	6.4
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: CBS.

**Table 4. WW benefits**

	November <sup>1</sup> 2013	October 2013	Monthly change	November 2012	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
New	51.2	58.2	-12.0	51.2	-0.1
Current	419.1	408.2	2.7	322.3	30.0
Terminated	40.3	50.3	-19.9	38.7	4.1
due to expiration of maximum period	14.8	17.3	-14.7	14.1	4.3
due to resumption of work	18.5	24.3	-24.1	17.9	2.8
other reasons	7.1	8.7	-18.5	6.6	7.0

Source: UWV.

<sup>1</sup> The Unemployment Act makes a distinction between report periods of 4 and 5 weeks. In 2013, January, May, August and October are periods of 5 weeks. In 2012, March, May, August and November are periods of 5 weeks.

**Table 5. Current WW benefits by sector**

	November 2013	October 2013	Monthly change	November 2012	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
<b>Total</b>	419.1	408.2	2.7	322.3	30.0
<b>Sector</b>					
Agriculture and fishery	5.8	5.0	15.0	4.2	38.7
Manufacturing industry and mineral extraction	54.7	54.0	1.3	42.1	30.0
Energy, water and waste treatment	0.36	0.35	1.7	0.2	43.5
Construction	21.9	20.7	5.8	16.3	33.8
Trade	65.7	64.2	2.2	48.8	34.6
Hotels and restaurants	16.3	14.9	9.6	12.2	33.4
Transport and storage	22.7	21.5	5.4	15.7	44.4
Financial and business services	145.5	141.7	2.7	120.4	20.8
Public administration	4.4	4.5	-1.2	3.9	13.6
Education	15.5	16.5	-5.7	12.8	20.9
Health care, welfare and culture	65.0	63.6	2.1	44.4	46.3
Sector unknown	1.3	1.3		1.2	

Source: UWV.

**Table 6. Current WW benefits by gender, age and region**

	November 2013	October 2013	Monthly change	November 2012	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
WW total	419.1	408.2	2.7	322.3	30.0
Gender					
Men	223.7	216.5	3.3	175.4	27.5
Women	195.4	191.7	1.9	146.9	33.0
Age					
<25 yrs	19.3	18.2	5.9	14.5	32.7
25-35 yrs	72.5	70.4	2.9	54.8	32.2
35-45 yrs	96.7	94.5	2.3	75.7	27.6
45-55 yrs	121.5	118.9	2.2	93.6	29.8
>= 55 yrs	109.1	106.2	2.8	83.6	30.5
Province					
Groningen	14.4	14.0	3.2	11.6	24.1
Friesland	18.6	17.8	4.4	14.9	24.2
Drenthe	12.9	12.2	5.0	10.3	25.4
Overijssel	31.1	30.0	3.6	22.7	36.8
Flevoland	12.0	11.7	2.1	9.0	32.7
Gelderland	50.9	49.3	3.1	37.7	34.9
Utrecht	28.7	28.4	0.9	21.5	33.2
North Holland	62.5	61.4	1.8	48.9	27.8
South Holland	83.0	81.1	2.4	64.3	29.1
Zeeland	7.8	7.3	6.3	5.7	36.3
North Brabant	65.2	64.0	1.9	50.5	29.1
Limburg	28.3	27.5	3.0	22.9	23.8
abroad/unknown	3.8	3.5		2.3	
Major Dutch municipalities					
Amsterdam	21.4	21.2	0.9	17.2	24.1
Rotterdam	18.5	18.1	2.4	14.4	28.7
The Hague	12.7	12.3	3.5	10.4	22.4
Utrecht	7.5	7.6	-0.4	5.8	28.7

Source: UWV.