

Press release

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Unemployment further up

- **Unemployed labour force 10 thousand up in January**
- **Number of unemployment benefits grows by 23 thousand**

The most recent figures released by Statistics Netherlands show that unemployment increased by 10 thousand in January 2014 to reach 678 thousand, i.e. 8.6 percent in the labour force. The figures are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Figures published by the Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances show that 460 thousand unemployment (WW) benefits were granted in January 2014, an increase by 23 thousand relative to December 2013.

Unemployment fairly stable over the past three months

Unemployment increased by 10 thousand in January. On average, unemployment remained fairly stable over the past three months. Two factors play a part in this respect: more jobs were lost and at the same time many unemployed withdrew from the labour market. As a result, the average unemployment level over the past three months hardly changed.

According to the ILO definition, 7.1 percent in the Dutch labour force were unemployed in January versus 7.0 percent in December 2013.

Substantial increase unemployment benefits granted to young people and in sectors sensitive to seasonal variation

The number of current unemployment benefits rose by 5.2 percent in January 2014 to 460 thousand. The monthly increase was less substantial than in January 2013, when the number of WW benefits rose by 8.6 percent. With 10.2 percent, the number of benefits grew more rapidly among under-25s in January than on average among other age groups. The number of unemployment benefits grew above average in sectors affected by seasonal variation, like agriculture and construction, but also in the sectors public administration and health care and welfare.

In the first month of this year, 79 thousand new WW benefits were granted and 56 thousand were terminated; 27 thousand benefits, i.e. 4.8 percent of the total number of benefits terminated in January were terminated due to resumption of work.

Compared to one year ago, the total number of current unemployment benefits grew by one quarter. Especially women, over-55s, the sectors health care and welfare and transport and storage and the province of Utrecht reported an increase relative to last year.

Table 1. Unemployed labour force, monthly figures¹

	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
2014					
January	678	10	1	8.6	695
2013					
December	668	15	-6	8.5	642
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

Source: Statistics Netherlands.

¹ Detailed figures available on StatLine:

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

Detailed figures based on 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					
2014	January	130	295	252	362	316	678
2013	December	133	287	248	358	310	668
	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

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	% in the labour force
		x 1,000						%
	2013	137	278	241	355	301	656	8.3
	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: Statistics Netherlands.

Table 4. Unemployment benefits

	January ¹ 2014	December 2013	Monthly change	January 2013	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
New	78.7	53.9	46.1	73.7	6.8
Current	460.5	437.7	5.2	369.3	24.7
Terminated	55.9	35.2	58.9	44.6	25.4
due to expiration of maximum period	19.9	15.5	28.4	16.8	18.8
due to resumption of work	26.9	13.0	107.2	21.0	27.9
other reasons	9.1	6.7	36.0	6.8	33.7

Source: Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances.

¹ The Unemployment Act makes a distinction between report periods of 4 and 5 weeks. In 2013, January, May, August and October were periods of 5 weeks.

Table 5. Current unemployment benefits by sector

	January 2014	December 2013	Monthly change	January 2013	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
Total	460.5	437.7	5.2	369.3	24.7
Sector					
Agriculture and fishery	8.0	7.0	12.9	6.0	33.3
Manufacturing industry and mineral extraction	58.0	56.2	3.2	46.5	24.7
Energy, water and waste treatment	0.38	0.4	4.1	0.3	39.8
Construction	28.6	26.1	9.6	24.8	15.2
Trade	68.3	66.6	2.5	53.1	28.6
Hotels and restaurants	17.6	16.8	4.6	13.4	31.2
Transport and storage	25.3	23.7	6.7	18.1	39.6
Financial and business services	160.8	153.4	4.9	138.5	16.2
Public administration	4.9	4.5	8.5	4.3	15.2
Education	15.6	15.3	1.5	12.7	22.9
Health care, welfare and culture	71.8	66.4	8.0	50.3	42.7
Sector unknown	1.3	1.3		1.4	

Source: Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances

Table 6. Current unemployment benefits by gender, age and region

	January 2014	December 2013	Monthly change	January 2013	Annual change
	x 1,000	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%
WW total	460.5	437.7	5.2	369.3	24.7
Gender					
Men	252.7	238.9	5.8	209.1	20.9
Women	207.8	198.8	4.5	160.2	29.7
Age					
<25 yrs	22.8	20.7	10.2	19.1	19.6
25-35 yrs	82.2	76.9	6.8	66.8	23.0
35-45 yrs	105.2	100.9	4.3	86.8	21.1
45-55 yrs	132.5	126.3	4.9	105.1	26.0
>= 55 yrs	117.8	113.0	4.3	91.5	28.8
Province					
Groningen	17.0	15.6	8.9	14.2	19.6
Friesland	21.9	20.6	6.1	18.5	18.4
Drenthe	15.5	14.2	9.4	13.2	17.9
Overijssel	34.9	33.1	5.4	27.8	25.5
Flevoland	12.7	12.3	3.2	9.9	27.8
Gelderland	56.3	52.9	6.4	43.8	28.5
Utrecht	30.7	29.5	4.0	23.6	30.0
North Holland	66.4	63.6	4.5	53.7	23.7
South Holland	89.4	86.1	3.8	71.6	24.9
Zeeland	8.5	8.2	3.8	6.9	23.2
North Brabant	70.2	67.1	4.6	57.2	22.8
Limburg	31.6	29.8	6.1	26.5	19.1
abroad/unknown	5.4	4.7		2.4	
Major municipalities					
Amsterdam	22.3	21.6	3.4	18.6	19.6
Rotterdam	19.7	19.1	3.1	16.2	21.9
The Hague	13.7	13.2	3.5	11.5	18.7
Utrecht	8.1	7.8	4.3	6.4	26.8

Source: Institute for Implementation of Employees' Insurances