



# Labour market policy

Qualitative report

**Netherlands 2001**



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## A - Introduction

## A - Introduction

The first publication of the **Qualitative Reports** of the **Labour Market Policy (LMP) database** is issued in 16 volumes, one for each country participating in the LMP data collection<sup>1</sup>. The reports present qualitative information extracted from the database to describe, in total, 550 labour market policy measures included in the Eurostat database for the year 2001. The reports constitute a fundamental component of the Eurostat Labour Market Policy (LMP) database allowing the user to understand what lies behind the figures on expenditure and participants collected in the database. The qualitative reports give a succinct description of each of the labour market policy measures and should be considered as complementary information to the publication *Labour Market Policy - Expenditure and Participants - Data 2001*<sup>2</sup>.

The reports all have the same structure: Part A presents the Introduction, Part B includes the Inventory of measures - i.e. the list of all measures grouped by category, and Part C presents the main details of each measure in three sections: Identification, Description, and Supplementary information. The *Description* contains seven sub-sections: Aim, Beneficiaries, Action/Instrument, Financing/Support, Eligibility, Legal basis, and Recent changes. The *Supplementary Information* contains nine sub-sections covering the target groups, the conditions for participation and other characteristics of the measure. Together, these items summarise the qualitative information collected through the LMP questionnaire<sup>3</sup>.

The measure descriptions in the LMP database are up-dated every year with the contribution of the LMP delegates in each country and should be published by Eurostat every 2 years. They are also available as a chapter of the Basic Information Reports (BIRs) produced by the European Employment Observatory<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The reports are issued primarily in English but French and German versions are also available on request. Eurostat makes every effort to ensure that measure descriptions entered in one language are updated in the other two languages but the alignment of translations cannot be guaranteed. Bearing this in mind, the preferred language for each country report is considered to be English for all countries except Belgium, France and Luxembourg (French); Germany and Austria (German).

<sup>2</sup> European Social Statistics - *Labour market Policy - Expenditure and Participants - Data 2001*. Eurostat Theme 3 - Population and Social conditions - 2003 Edition.

<sup>3</sup> *Labour Market Policy Database - Methodology* - April 2000. Eurostat Working Papers.

<sup>4</sup> The BIRs are produced on behalf of the European Employment Strategy Unit (General Directorate of Employment and Social Affairs) and can be accessed via <http://www.eu-employment-observatory.net/en/publications/bir>.

## B - Inventory of measures

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Category	Measure n°/name
<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Mixed measures</b>
	1 WVA - Act on reduction of employers tax and social security contributions
	38 WIW - Jobseekers employment act
<b>Number of measures:</b>	<b>13 (including 2 mixed measure(s) with a total of 5 components)</b>

## C - Qualitative information by measure

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 0 - General PES  
**Measure n°/name:** 39      **PES - Public employment services**  
**Type of action:** 0      General PES

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To provide services that contribute to improving the position of the jobseekers on the labour market.

**Beneficiaries:**

Registered jobseekers

**Action/Instrument:**

The Public Employment Services provide jobseekers with basic and reintegration services. The budget for basic services is spent on those services that are available to all jobseekers. These services comprise: providing information, registration, qualitative intake, selection for and referral to vacancies. For employers these services comprise: providing information, registration and brokerage of vacancies.

The budget for reintegration services is used to finance the activities that are embodied in the so-called trajectories: services that contribute to the improvement of the position of the jobseeker on the labour market. Not all jobseekers have (equal) access to these reintegration services. The trajectories are tailor-made to the needs of the individual jobseeker and may include training, application training, assessment, etc. These services may be delivered by a variety of organisations or institutions, which are contracted by the PES.

The PES no longer administers labour market measures for which individual employers or jobseekers can apply. Moreover, several labour market measures which were administered by the PES have been abolished in recent years, except for the Contribution Scheme for sectoral Training of the Unemployed BBSW (see measure number NL-40).

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget and ESF

**Eligibility:**

Registered jobseekers

**Legal basis:**
**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Registered jobseekers		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	None
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	Yes	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	None
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a.		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to service providers		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Public employment services		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 2 - Training  
**Measure n°/name:** 40      **BBSW - Contribution scheme for sectoral training of the unemployed**  
**Type of action:** 2      Training

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To solve and prevent bottleneck in regional labour markets by providing sector-specific training.

**Beneficiaries:**

Unemployed

**Action/Instrument:**

The BBSW subsidises the sector-specific training of unemployed. The objective is to have unemployed persons who finish a training course within one year in order to find a job in less than five months. The budget, list of applicants and maximum available budget per sector/training programme are determined by the Central Board of the PES. The measure is meant for sector-based organisations which represent employers from several regions, not for individual employers.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget and the sector-based organisations.

**Eligibility:**

Registered unemployed

**Legal basis:**

Stcrt. (Official Gazette) 1996/132 and amended in the Stcrt. 1999/106.

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	None
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	Yes	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	None
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a.		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to service providers		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 12 Months
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Public employment services		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	1996		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 3 - Job rotation and job sharing  
**Measure n°/name:** 37      **Career break**  
**Type of action:** 3.1      Job rotation

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To share existing employment by encouraging career breaks and replacing leavetakers by unemployed person

**Beneficiaries:**

Unemployed, disabled, or inactive re-entering the labour market.

**Action/Instrument:**

Career breaks are possible for leave of 2-18 months (at least half the usual working time). The employer's permission is needed and the leavetaker must be replaced by an unemployed person (or on disablement benefit), or someone re-entering the labour market. However, replacement is not compulsory, when the aim of the leave is to care for terminally ill relatives. Gross benefit (independent of other benefits) up to a ceiled amount is determined on an hourly rate basis and is paid to the beneficiaries by the social insurance agency.

**Financing/support:**

Social insurance agency (less expenditure on social security benefits)

**Eligibility:**

Criteria for financial compensation:

- The employee must have been employed at his/her employer for at least 12 months.
- The employee may not have received a financial compensation before.
- The leave must be for at least two months and half the usual number of working hours. An exception can be made, when the aim of the leave is to care for terminally ill relatives, in which case a period of one month is possible.
- The employee must be replaced by a person from the target group (see below). Replacement is not compulsory, when the aim of the leave is to care for terminally ill relatives.

**Legal basis:**

Act on Career Break Funding

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed, Inactive		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities, Re-entrants/lone-parents
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	n.a.	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	None
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	No		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Social security funds		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	1998		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 4 - Employment incentives  
**Measure n°/name:** 14      **RSP - Regulation on employment in domestic services**  
**Type of action:** 4.1.1      Permanent

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To promote the employment of low-skilled long-term unemployed in the domestic services sector and to formalise the market for domestic services

**Beneficiaries:**

Long-term unemployed with little or no qualifications

**Action/Instrument:**

Employers in the domestic services sector may receive a wage cost subsidy for up to four years if they offer a contract to a long-term unemployed. The subsidy is paid in proportion to the number of hours the RSP-employee has worked in private households that have a contract with the employer. In addition the employer may use the SPAK and VLW components of the WVA (see measure NL-1) to reduce the costs of taxes and social contributions. The long-term unemployed must be offered a regular job or a fixed-term contract for at least six months, providing the RSP-employee with an income that is more than the benefit he or she would otherwise have received. The price the consumer is charged by the employer for hiring a domestic cleaner under the RSP is fixed.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

Long-term unemployed with little or no qualifications. To qualify as a LTU one must be registered as an unemployed for at least one year, though in some large cities and backward regions the limit may be six months. Re-entrants who have been registered as an unemployed for at least one year also qualify for the measure.

**Legal basis:**

Subsidy Regulation for Domestic Services (RSP), Stcrt. 1997/244 and Stcrt. 1998/125.

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed (LTU LTU = 12 months; in some large cities and some regions = 6 months)	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Public priorities and other
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Yes <i>Registration continued:</i> No	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	None
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 4 Years
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Central government	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1997 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled  
**Measure n°/name:** 6      **WSW - Sheltered employment act**  
**Type of action:** 5.2      Sheltered employment

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To promote the participation of disabled people in the labour market.

**Beneficiaries:**

Disabled persons able to work but facing difficulties to find a regular employment.

**Action/Instrument:**

Municipal authorities have the obligation to promote employment for disabled persons. To this end, special sheltered work places are created, in the aim of furthering productive capacity, and, as a second line of action, suitable places are sought in the open market.

For this an annual subsidy is provided by the State, the level of which is decided by ministerial decree and is linked to severity of handicap.

Initial employment contract of 2 years, which is reassessed and valid for another 3 or 5 years. If the wage earned is less than the benefit the participant would otherwise have been entitled to, a supplementary benefit (WAO, WAJONG or WAZ) will be paid. The act includes the possibility of job coaching, where an employment contract in the open market is supported by a job coach.

**Financing/support:**

Central and local government budget

**Eligibility:**

Eligible for a sheltered work place are persons who - because of physical, mental or psychological impediments - are capable of regular work only in a sheltered environment. The following criteria are to be met:

- The person must be capable of reaching a minimum of 10% of the normal working capacity.
- The person must be capable of working continuously for at least one hour.
- Coaching time is limited.
- The person qualifies for more than one function.

A committee of independent specialists screens applicants on the basis of procedures prescribed by the central government and advises the municipal authorities on the degree of suitability and eligibility. After the committee has determined that the person in question belongs to the target group, it categorises the person in one of three disability levels: light, moderate, severe.

**Legal basis:**

Sheltered Employment Act, Stbl. 1997/465.

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Disabled
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	Yes	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Other benefit
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	No		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	1968		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 6 - Direct job creation  
**Measure n°/name:** 3      **Regulation on I/D-jobs for long-term unemployed (former W11/EWLW)**  
**Type of action:** 6      Direct job creation

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To create permanent jobs for long-term unemployed in specified economic sectors.

**Beneficiaries:**

Long-term unemployed.

**Action/Instrument:**

Over the 1995-1998 period, the creation of 40,000 subsidised jobs has been planned in the welfare and health-care sector, children's day-care facilities, education, sport, as well as for firms and institutions which are (either fully or partly) engaged in public surveillance. Most of these additional placements (70%) will be created in the country's cities, where long-term unemployment percentages are twice as high as in other parts of the country. From 1999 onwards, the EWLW has been extended by the I/D-jobs program, supplementing the original 40,000 subsidised jobs with another 20,000 over the next four years. The I/D-jobs program distinguishes between starter jobs and jobs for more experienced workers. The maximum wage of the former category is 130% of statutory minimum wage; the maximum wage of the latter 150% of statutory minimum (with a maximum of 130% government compensation). Entry into a D-job is possible only after having occupied an EWLW- or I-job for at least five years. This means that the first D-jobs will be created in 2000, as the EWLW came into effect in 1995. Workers are thus encouraged to participate in training courses to improve their skills and qualifications, and subsequently to find regular employment. I/D-workers who have accepted a regular job may receive a bonus. The idea is to prevent the scheme from becoming a last resort.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

Long-term unemployed persons who have been unemployed for more than one year. A recent objective of the measure is the increase of the number of disabled (10% of all new I/D-jobs should be reserved for disabled persons).

**Legal basis:**

Decree of 17.12.1998, Stcrt. 1998/246

**Recent changes:**

In 1999 the EWLW has been extended by the I/D-jobs program, supplementing the original 40,000 subsidised jobs with another 20,000 over the next four years.

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed (LTU LTU = 12 months)	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	None
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> No	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Other benefit
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1999 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support  
**Measure n°/name:** 31      **WW - Unemployment insurance**  
**Type of action:** 8.1.1      Unemployment insurance

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To provide income support to people having involuntarily lost their job.

**Beneficiaries:**

Insured unemployed who are able and available to work.

**Action/Instrument:**

The WW insures employees against the financial consequences of unemployment. Two types of allowance exist depending on eligibility criteria. In the first case, unemployed can receive an unemployment benefit equal to 70% of the legal minimum wage for at most 6 months. Second, if the unemployed match additional eligibility requirements, they can receive a salary related WW benefit (70% of the former wage). Salary-related benefits last for a period of at least 6 months and at most 5 years according to the person's employment record and age. If the person is still unemployed after this period, he or she receives a benefit of 70% of the statutory minimum wage for two more years. If the benefit, together with any other family income, is less than the social minimum income, a supplement may be added (see Supplementary Benefits Act). Depending on personal circumstances, other arrangements may be possible.

**Financing/support:**

Social security funds

**Eligibility:**

Entitlement for receiving 70% of the legal minimum wage is based on a person having been employed for a period of at least 26 weeks over the 39 weeks immediately prior to becoming unemployed. A second, additional requirement must be satisfied in order to become entitled to a salary-related WW-benefit: wages must have been received for over 52 days or more in at least four of the five calendar years prior to the year in which the person has become unemployed.

**Legal basis:**

Unemployment Benefit Act

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	None
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> Yes	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 7 Years
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Social security funds	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support  
**Measure n°/name:** 32      **TW - Supplementary benefits**  
**Type of action:** 8.1.2      Unemployment assistance

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To supplement the income of unemployment and disability benefit recipients.

**Beneficiaries:**

Unemployed or disabled persons receiving a benefit under the level of the applicable guaranteed minimum income.

**Action/Instrument:**

The TW provides assistance for unemployed or disabled persons already receiving a benefit if their income (plus that of their partner) falls below the applicable guaranteed minimum income. The supplementary benefit is the difference between the applicable guaranteed minimum income level and the total income of the beneficiary and his or her partner. The guaranteed minimum income is 100% of the gross minimum wage for married persons, 90% of that wage for single parents and 70% of that wage for singles aged 23 or over. For singles aged under 23, the guaranteed minimum income is less. Any property, such as a private home, or capital, such as savings, is not taken into account. This is an important difference from the regulation under the National Assistance Act (see measure NL-33).

Supplementary benefits are bound to the following maximum rates: 30% of the minimum wage for married persons; 27% of the minimum wage for single parents; 21% of the minimum wage for singles.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

Unemployed or disabled persons receiving a benefit under the level of the applicable guaranteed minimum income.

**Legal basis:**

Supplementary Benefit Act

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Re-entrants/lone-parents
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> No	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Social security funds	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1987 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support  
**Measure n°/name:** 33      **Abw - National assistance benefit**  
**Type of action:** 8.1.2      Unemployment assistance

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To provide a minimum social income to persons with insufficient financial resources.

**Beneficiaries:**

Unemployed willing to work, inactive, and persons older than 57.5 years.

**Action/Instrument:**

The National Assistance benefit (ABW) is a supplementary benefit (mean-tested, including capital income) in order to provide beneficiaries with the relevant social assistance level. It exists three national assistance levels for people aged 21 and over, depending on their social status: for married people and cohabitants, the benefit is 100% of the net statutory minimum wage, for single parents, it is 70% and for single people, it is 50%. Unemployed persons benefiting from the ABW benefit have to find actively a work. Exceptions are made for people having children less than 5 years of age and persons older than 57.5 years.

Local authorities (municipal 'Departments of Social Services) are responsible of the implementation of the measure and they have also to actively support the jobseekers in their search ( job interview courses, acquisition of work experience and participation in a social integration contract). Unemployed who do not co-operate with the municipal department of social services receive sanctions.

**Financing/support:**

Central (Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment) and local government budget

**Eligibility:**

The National Assistance Act (ABW) provides a minimum income for all those who have insufficient financial means to meet essential living costs (household mean-tested, including capital income). Beneficiaries must take all possible steps to again support themselves. If possible, the partners of ABW-beneficiaries should also look for work, though medical and social circumstances are taken into account here. If a person is responsible for the care of one or more children (less than 5 years of age), there is no obligation to look for work. If the children are aged five and older, the authorities then examine the situation on a case by case basis in order to determine whether there are grounds for exempting clients from the obligation to look for work. Unemployed people who are aged 57.5 or older are not obliged to look for work.

As of 1 July 1997, municipalities may also draw up categories of people eligible for special social assistance. A person is entitled to claim special social assistance if essential costs must be undertaken which the municipal authority feels the person in question is unable to meet.

**Legal basis:**

National Assistance Act

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed, Inactive	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	None
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> No	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1996 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support  
**Measure n°/name:** 34      **IOAW - Income provisions for older or partially disabled, formerly unemployed persons**  
**Type of action:** 8.1.2      Unemployment assistance

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To provide a minimum social income to older and partially disabled persons.

**Beneficiaries:**

Persons older than 50 and disabled persons having exhausted their rights for unemployment benefit.

**Action/Instrument:**

The IOAW provides beneficiaries with a guaranteed social minimum income. The benefit becomes payable after the maximum duration of unemployment benefit expires. For those persons with generally very poor chances in the labour market, it prevents the necessity of turning to the National Assistance Act (see Measure NL-33).

Analogous to the above-mentioned law, the total income of eligible persons and their partners is topped up to the guaranteed minimum level, and, in assessing entitlement to the benefit, fixed assets, such as a private home, or capital, such as savings, is not taken into account.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

Unemployed persons who were aged between 50 and 57.5 when they became unemployed and have received wage-related benefit plus the follow-up benefit under the Unemployment Benefits Act (WW);

- unemployed persons who were 57.5 or over when they became unemployed and who meet the "26 weeks" requirement but not the "four out of five" requirement of the WW scheme, implying that they only receive unemployment benefit for a short period of time;

- partially disabled persons who are receiving a partial WAO or other statutory disability, invalidity or industrial injuries benefit, who are unemployed and who have received wage-related benefit and the follow-up benefit under the Unemployment Benefits Act;

- young disabled persons receiving a Wajong benefit based on a disability level of less than 80%.

**Legal basis:**

Act on income provisions for older or partially disabled, formerly unemployed persons

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Older, Disabled
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	n.a.	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support  
**Measure n°/name:** 35      **IOAZ - Income provisions for older or partially disabled, formerly self-employed persons**  
**Type of action:** 8.1.2      Unemployment assistance

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To provide a minimum social income to older and partially disabled persons.

**Beneficiaries:**

Older (>55) or partially disabled who are unemployed and were formerly self-employed persons.

**Action/Instrument:**

The IOAZ provides with a guaranteed social minimum income (see measure NL-34 and NL-33) some designated categories of formerly self-employed persons who were forced to terminate their business or profession.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

Self-employed aged 55 years and older, who earn less than the minimum guaranteed income for a period of at least three years and are thus forced to end their professional or business activities;

Partially disabled self-employed persons aged under 65 who are forced to end their professional or business activities due to their disability. Claimants must be receiving a WAZ benefit for a disability level of less than 80%.

In both cases, their average annual income must have been below the minimum guaranteed level for the three preceding years.

**Legal basis:**

Act on income provisions for older or partially disabled, formerly self-employed persons

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed		<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Older, Disabled
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i>	n.a.	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit
	<i>Registration continued:</i>	No		
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)		<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government		<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i>	Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i>	Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category:** Mixed  
**Measure n°/name:** 38      **WIW - Jobseekers employment act**  
**Type of action:** 2      Training  
                                  4.1.2      Temporary  
                                  6.1      Permanent

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To activate unemployed people by means of training, work experience contracts and/or subsidised employment.

**Beneficiaries:**

Jobseekers facing specific difficulties to find a job, in particular: long-term unemployed, youngsters and disabled

**Action/Instrument:**

The Jobseekers Employment Act (WIW) is a mixed measure that replaces the former Youth Employment Guarantee Act and Labour Pools. In order to achieve the objectives of the measure, local authorities have a full and coherent packet of instruments at their disposal, ranging from social activation and training to subsidised jobs. The instruments may be used simultaneously or one after the other. Not all persons belonging to the target group have equal access to all measures: a comprehensive approach exists only for unemployed youth aged under 23, and subsidised employment is available (in principle) only for the long-termed unemployed.

The instruments include:

- 1 Activation & Training

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget (Resources are available for municipalities via the Municipal Work Fund and the social security agencies can buy WIW instruments using resources from the General Unemployment Fund).

**Eligibility:**

In principle the WIW is open to all unemployed persons and benefit recipients, but not all persons have equal access to all the instruments. The act discriminates between the following groups:

- a) long-term unemployed persons in the age between 16 and 65;
- b) disabled persons in the age between 16 and 65;
- c) all persons looking for a job in the age between 16 and 65.

Persons in group a) can be offered employment contracts & outplacement and employment contracts and outplacement.

For persons in group a) and b) work experience places can be created. For persons in group b) subsidies can also be offered for training and activation, adaptation of the working place etc.

Persons in group c) can be offered training and activation plans.

**Legal basis:**

Jobseekers Employment Act of 4.12.1997, Stbl. 1997/760, Stbl. 1998/742.

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed, Employed at risk, Inactive	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Youth, Disabled
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> n.a.	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	Unemployment benefit, Other LMP benefit
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Local government	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

**Identification:**

**Country:** Netherlands      **Year:** 2001      **Category:** Mixed  
**Measure n°/name:** 1      **WVA - Act on reduction of employers tax and social security contributions**  
**Type of action:** 4.1      Recruitment incentives  
                                  2.4      Special support for apprenticeship

**Description:**
**Aim:**

To encourage the employment of long-term unemployed (including unemployed aged over 57.5) and apprentices.

**Beneficiaries:**

Long-term unemployed, and apprentices

**Action/Instrument:**

Employers, who recruit eligible unemployed or apprentices with a wage lower than 130% of the statutory minimum wage, benefit either from the VLW tax reduction (LTU) or from the VO tax reduction (apprentices). Additionally, if the wage is lower than 115% of the statutory minimum wage, employers would also benefit from the SPAK tax reduction, which applies to all low paid employees. The latest tax reduction is not taken into account in the LMP figures. Maximum duration of the aid is 4 years.

**Financing/support:**

Central government budget

**Eligibility:**

VLW: The new employee must have been a former LTU (unemployed for more than 12 months) and may earn no more than 130% of the statutory minimum wage. In some regions or big cities persons who have been unemployed for 6 months receive the LTU status. The unemployed over 57.5 receive the LTU status without duration requirement.

VO: Every apprentice who does not earn more than 130% of the statutory minimum wage is eligible for the employers' tax reduction VO.

**Legal basis:**

Act of 15 December 1995, Reduction of Employers' Tax and Social Security Contribution

**Recent changes:**

None

**Supplementary information:**

<b>Target groups:</b>	Unemployed (LTU LTU = 12 months; in large cities = 6 months)	<b>Detailed target groups:</b>	Public priorities and other
<b>Unemployment registration:</b>	<i>Condition for participation:</i> No <i>Registration continued:</i> No	<b>Other cash benefits:</b>	None
<b>Type of expenditure:</b>	Transfers to employers ( Reduced social contributions, Reduced taxes)	<b>Planned duration:</b>	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 4 Years
<b>Responsible institution(s):</b>	Central government	<b>Area of Application:</b>	National
<b>Implementation:</b>	<i>Year started:</i> 1996 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		