

# Annual Report 2012

Summary

## Explanation of symbols

.	data not available
*	provisional figure
**	revised provisional figure
x	publication prohibited (confidential figure)
–	nil
–	(if placed between two figures) up to and including
o (o.o)	less than half of unit used
blank	category not applicable
2011–2012	2011 to 2012 inclusive
2011/2012	average over the period 2011 up to and including 2012
2011/'12	crop year, financial year, school year, etc., beginning in 2011 and terminating in 2012
2009/'10–	
2011/'12	crop year, financial year, etc., 2009/'10 up to and including 2011/'12

Detailed items in tables may not necessarily add to totals because of rounding

The National Youth Monitor is compiled at the request of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports. Statistics Netherlands is responsible for carrying out the project.

### Publisher

Statistics Netherlands  
Henri Faasdreef 312  
2492 JP The Hague, The Netherlands

### Prepress and print

Statistics Netherlands  
Grafimedia

### Cover

Osage, Utrecht

### Information

Infoservice Youth, telephone +31 88 570 75 75  
(Monday–Friday, 09.00–17.00 hrs)  
or via contact form at:  
[www.landelijkejeugdmonitor.nl](http://www.landelijkejeugdmonitor.nl)

### Internet

[www.landelijkejeugdmonitor.nl](http://www.landelijkejeugdmonitor.nl)  
[www.cbs.nl](http://www.cbs.nl)

ISBN: 978-90-357-1946-0

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# Introduction

Well-structured publications presenting a comprehensive description of the recent situation and developments concerning children and young adults can give policymakers in various areas an insight into the effects of their policies. Since 2007, the National Youth Monitor of the Netherlands has presented figures about children and young adults under the age of 25 in the Netherlands. In addition, various reports, including the Annual Report 2012 - of which this is the summary - are published on the basis of these figures.

The Annual Report 2012 presents a broad overview of the situation of the age group 0–24 years in the Netherlands in five domains: family life, health, education, labour, and safety. In addition to the description of the present situation of young people in these areas, the report also addresses the development of various aspects in time, and where possible describes the context of and interrelationships between important facets in the lives of young people. Thus the Annual Report is intended as an indispensable source of information, figures and developments, which policymakers can use to substantiate and develop youth policy at both national and regional level.

This English summary of the Annual Report gives an overview of the most important results and findings.

The National Youth Monitor and the Annual Report cover the population of the Netherlands aged 0–24 years. The chapter on labour describes the situation for people aged 26 and younger. Not all the figures in the Youth Monitor are available for the complete age group.

# Youth in the Netherlands

## Young people and family life

The age group 0–24 years in the Netherlands comprised over 4.94 million people in 2012. Forecasts predict a decrease in this number in the coming years, to 4.84 million in 2020. The fall will be largest among 4–14 year-olds, a reflection of the low birth rates expected in the near future. Nearly 1.2 million of all 0–24 year-olds in 2012 had a foreign background. Most of these young people, nearly eight in ten, were born in the Netherlands. The average age of youngsters with a foreign background, 12.9 years in 2012, is expected to rise to 13.2 years by 2020. Among native Dutch young people it will stagnate at 12.8 years, according to the forecast.

Under-25s accounted for 30 percent of the overall Dutch population in 2012. This is a significantly smaller share than in the middle of the previous century, when 45 percent of the population were younger than 25. Municipalities in the so-called Bible Belt and in the province of Flevoland, but also in university cities such as Groningen and Utrecht, have a relatively large share of young people. In forty municipalities, the share of under-25s in 2012 was only 26 percent or lower, and this will probably be the case for 150 municipalities by 2020.

More and more underage children in the Netherlands are growing up in a household with one parent, in most cases their mother. In 2011 this was the case for nearly 518 thousand children, one year previously for 515 thousand children. The number of children experiencing the divorce of their parents has been fairly constant since 2000, however. Four in ten 18–24 year-olds have left home. An increasing share of them live alone, without partners or children.

A small number of young women had a baby before their 20th birthday. Compared with other EU countries this number is very low. Teenage mothers are relatively more common among young women with an Antillean or Surinamese background than among native Dutch young women, while among young women with a Turkish background they are even less common.

In 2010 one in ten children grew up in a low-income household, which means they have an increased risk of poverty. Children in one-parent families in particular have a relatively high poverty risk. They cannot always take an annual holiday or shopping for new clothes for granted. Participation in leisure time activities is not restricted by an increased risk of poverty.

## Young people and health

In 2010/2011, 93 percent of under-25s in the Netherlands rated their health as positive. This percentage has hardly changed among young people in recent years, and young women are still usually slightly less positive than young men. Young people also become less positive about their health as they grow older. The behaviour of young people is not always healthy. In 2010/2011 nearly one quarter of 12–24 year-olds smoked, and around 15 percent of 2–24 year-olds were overweight. The percentage of smokers has fallen in recent years, while the percentage of overweight people in this age group has increased in the last few decades. Both smoking and obesity are more common among the older age categories up to 25 years, and among children and young people growing up in one-parent families.

Young people use various forms of care. In 2010/2011, 66 percent of under-25s saw their general practitioner, 83 percent went to the dentist and 12 percent were treated by a physiotherapist. This care consumption correlates with age and family situation. Young people who use medication or food supplements more often do so without than with a prescription. Young people on prescribed medication often take it for ADHD.

It is important that young people are able to grow up in a safe environment. People who suspect neglect or abuse of an underage child can contact the child abuse reporting agency (*Advies- en Meldpunt Kindermishandeling*, abbreviated as AMK). In 2011 more than 65 thousand first contacts were made with the AMK. This is substantially more than in 2008, when there were 52 thousand first contacts.

### **Young people and school**

More than 3.5 million under-25s in the Netherlands were in education in school-year 2011/12. Nearly everyone in the age group 4–17 years is in education, from the age of 18 years onwards this is only half. Girls and native Dutch young people realise a higher level of education on average than boys and young people with a non-western foreign background. In the last ten years, female enrolment in higher professional education (hbo) and university has increased substantially, from 27 percent in 2000/01 to 36 percent in 2011/12. Among young people with a non-western foreign background, too, the increase is considerable: 11 percentage points.

By providing extra funding, among other measures, the government has started a policy to reduce the number of underprivileged pupils from an early age. Twelve percent of all primary school pupils fall in the category underprivileged. Some of them require more care or attention than regular primary schools can provide. In school year 2011/12 nearly 42 thousand children were in special needs primary schools, 19 percent fewer than in 2000/01. Boys are overrepresented in special needs primary education; they account for two-thirds of all pupils in these schools. In addition to special needs education, there are also special schools for children with behavioural problems and children with chronic mental disorders. A total of 70 thousand under-25s attended these institutions, one and a half times the number in 2000/01. The number rose particularly strongly in the group aged 12–17 years; these are often children with extreme behavioural problems, many of them are boys with disorders such as ADHD.

For young people entering the labour market, it is important that they leave school with a basic qualification. Some of them do not manage to do this. The share of these early school-leavers among under-25s has fallen substantially, from 4.5 percent in 2004/05 to 3.2 percent in 2010/11. Relatively more boys and young people with a foreign background, especially a first generation non-western background, leave education without a qualification. Pupils who have ever arrested on suspicion of crime have a higher risk of dropping out of education, especially if they have been arrested more than once.

### **Young people on the labour market**

More than 774 thousand Dutch 15–26 year-olds were not in education in 2011; 81 percent of them had a paid job of 12 hours or more per week. Labour participation among young people with a higher level of education is considerably higher than among their peers with a lower level of education. It is also higher among young people with a basic qualification than among early school-leavers. Labour participation is especially low among women without a basic qualification. More of these women than their peers with a basic qualification are young mothers in a one-parent family and thus responsible for the care of one or more children.

One in three young people with a job in 2011 had a flexible contract. This more than three times the share of flexible contracts among over-27s.

Unemployment among 15–26 year-olds was 9 percent in the first half of 2012 and is higher than overall Dutch unemployment. This can be accounted for by the difficult economic circumstances under which young people are entering the labour market at the moment. This is especially the case for young men, more of whom than young women work in sectors sensitive to economic developments.

In addition to rising youth unemployment, the economic climate has also resulted in more young people claiming a benefit. At the end of 2011, 136 thousand people aged 15–26 years were claiming an unemployment, income support or disability benefit. This is 39 thousand more than at the end of 2008. Most benefit claimants in this age group are on a disability benefit, and most of these on the special disability benefit for young people (*Wajong*) (76 thousand).

### **Youth and safety**

The main aim of the Ministry of Safety and Justice is to make society safer. In 2011, one third of 15–24 year-olds said they sometimes did not feel safe. Young women reported this twice as often as young men. Also one third of this age group had been the victim of a crime in 2011, most of them of a property crime such as burglary, bicycle theft or pick pocketing.

Youngsters aged 12–17 years questioned by the police for the first time may be referred to the *Halt* scheme. The number of cases dealt with under this scheme was 17 thousand in 2011. This is a slight rise from 2010, following a downward trend since 2007. Three-quarters of all cases dealt with under the *Halt* scheme concerned boys.

Nearly 3 percent of young people were arrested by the police in 2010. The number of women arrested was a lot lower than the number of men, for both the groups under and over 18 years. The risk of young people being questioned by the police is three times as high if their parents have ever been arrested for a crime.

Cases of suspects who are underage in terms of the Penal Code (12–17 years) and arrested for a serious offence which is not eligible for referral to the *Halt* scheme are dealt with by the Public Prosecutor's Office. From 18 years of age onwards the Penal Code applies as for adults. A total of more than 71 thousand criminal cases involving suspects aged 15–24 years were dealt by the Public Prosecutor's Office and judges in 2011, slightly more than in 2010. Most of the criminal cases dealt with concerned property crimes such as burglary, bicycle theft and pick pocketing.

## Key figures for young people and families

	2000	2007	2009	2010	2011	2012
	<i>x 1,000</i>					
Number of young people (0–24 years) on 1 January	4,829	4,923	4,930	4,941	4,949	4,944
men	2,465	2,513	2,516	2,522	2,525	2,523
women	2,364	2,411	2,414	2,420	2,424	2,421
0 to 3 yrs	790	765	738	737	737	736
4 to 11 yrs	1,583	1,594	1,598	1,593	1,580	1,562
12 to 14 yrs	573	599	586	582	590	599
15 to 17 yrs	546	606	605	602	595	590
18 to 24 yrs	1,337	1,359	1,402	1,427	1,446	1,458
Number of young people (0–24 years) with a foreign background on 1 January	1,025	1,130	1,147	1,161	1,178	1,191
western	336	338	350	357	367	376
of whom:						
first generation	81	86	98	103	110	117
second generation	255	252	253	255	257	259
non-western	689	792	797	804	811	815
of whom:						
Moroccan	144	166	168	170	171	173
Turkish	157	168	167	166	165	164
Surinamese	128	129	126	123	121	118
(former) Netherlands Antillean	53	60	61	61	62	63
other non-western	207	268	275	284	291	297
first generation	209	178	159	154	149	144
second generation	481	614	637	650	661	671
Number of families on 1 January <sup>1)</sup>	2,466	2,525	2,526	2,535	2,548	.
two-parent families	2,082	2,066	2,051	2,049	2,047	.
one-parent families	384	459	475	486	500	.
Number of young people (18–24 years) in private households <sup>1)</sup>	1,328	1,348	1,391	1,415	1,433	.
child living at home	783	785	809	825	845	.
one-person household	244	280	295	302	326	.
partner in a couple (no children)	205	178	181	181	165	.
partner in a couple with children	42	39	37	37	36	.
single parent	10	13	12	12	11	.
other household member	44	53	57	58	50	.
Number of teenage mothers <sup>2)</sup>	.	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4	.
Children experiencing parents' divorce (0–17 years) <sup>3)</sup>	33.0	33.1	29.9	32.7	.	.
Number of children (0–17 years) in low income households <sup>1) 3)</sup>	.	333.3	325.4	328.4	.	.

Source: National Youth Monitor (unless otherwise specified).

<sup>1)</sup> The figures for the most recent year are provisional.

<sup>2)</sup> Source: CBS-Population statistics.

<sup>3)</sup> Source: CBS-Income Panel Survey.

## Key figures for young people and health

	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	%					
Positive assessment of health (0–24 years)	91.0	91.6	91.9	93.3	92.6	93.8
men	91.7	93.1	92.0	93.4	94.0	94.4
women	90.3	90.0	91.8	93.0	91.2	93.1
native Dutch	93.4	94.5	94.8	95.2	95.3	96.5
western foreign background	90.1	89.8	90.0	93.2	91.9	92.6
non-western foreign background	88.5	88.2	88.7	90.1	88.9	90.4
Overweight (2–24 years) <sup>1)</sup>	12.5	13.1	15.1	14.4	15.1	15.0
men	12.5	12.8	15.9	15.0	15.1	15.3
women	12.5	13.3	14.2	13.9	15.1	14.8
2 to 8 yrs	12.0	11.2	14.5	14.9	13.0	12.0
9 to 17 yrs	10.5	11.3	10.3	11.6	12.9	12.9
18 to 24 yrs	15.6	16.9	21.5	17.4	19.4	20.0
Seriously overweight (obese) (2–24 years)	2.2	2.6	3.6	2.6	3.4	3.5
men	1.9	2.1	3.2	2.3	3.4	3.1
women	2.5	3.2	3.9	2.8	3.3	3.9
2 to 8 yrs	3.0	3.5	3.9	2.9	3.8	3.7
9 to 17 yrs	1.6	2.2	2.4	1.7	2.9	2.0
18 to 24 yrs	2.3	2.4	4.6	3.3	3.6	5.0
Care consumption (0–24 years) <sup>2)</sup>						
contacts with general practitioner	69.5	66.2	68.7	68.8	67.0	66.1
men	65.3	62.8	65.1	64.9	63.1	63.3
women	73.9	69.9	72.3	72.9	70.9	69.0
contacts with medical specialist	29.7	32.4	30.9	32.5	26.2	27.7
men	29.9	33.2	30.1	33.2	26.5	26.6
women	29.6	31.6	31.7	31.8	25.9	28.9
hospital admissions	3.5	3.9	4.3	3.4	3.4	3.7
men	3.3	3.5	3.6	2.8	3.8	3.9
women	3.7	4.2	5.0	4.1	3.1	3.4
contacts with physiotherapist	7.2	10.4	10.9	11.0	12.0	12.7
men	6.7	10.6	11.2	11.3	12.2	11.8
women	7.8	10.2	10.7	10.8	11.7	13.8
contacts with dentist	85.0	82.0	82.1	82.6	82.4	82.5
men	83.4	82.0	81.3	81.5	82.2	81.4
women	86.7	82.0	82.9	83.7	82.7	83.6
	x 1,000					
Child Abuse Reporting Agency (AMK; 0–17 years)						
number of first contacts	.	50	52	60	60	65
number cases where advice was given	.	26	27	32	32	35
number of consultations	.	7	9	10	10	11
number of investigations	.	17	16	17	18	19

Source: National Youth Monitor (unless otherwise specified).

<sup>1)</sup> Including seriously overweight.

<sup>2)</sup> Source: CBS, Health Survey.



## Key figures for young people in education

	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
	× 1,000					
Education participation (0–24 years)						
total	.	3,470	3,480	3,506	3,515	3,518
primary education	1,547	1,553	1,553	1,548	1,535	1,517
special needs primary education	52	45	44	43	43	42
special needs primary schools	30	36	35	34	34	34
special needs secondary schools	16	28	32	33	35	36
secondary education	.	941	935	935	940	949
combined years	.	390	385	388	393	401
vmbo	.	217	212	208	204	204
havo	.	145	146	149	151	153
wwo	.	161	164	164	165	164
practical training	.	27	27	27	27	27
senior secondary vocational education	.	432	433	435	434	434
higher professional education	234	279	286	302	313	320
university	123	156	164	175	181	186
men	.	1,769	1,772	1,783	1,785	1,789
women	.	1,701	1,708	1,723	1,729	1,729
Exam passes (12–24 years) <sup>1)</sup>						
vmbo	.	99	97	95	92	.
boys	.	52	50	49	48	.
girls	.	48	46	45	44	.
havo	.	41	41	42	42	.
boys	.	20	20	20	20	.
girls	.	22	21	22	22	.
vwo	.	32	34	32	33	.
boys	.	15	16	14	15	.
girls	.	17	18	17	18	.
senior secondary vocational education	.	125	128	132	129	.
men	.	65	67	69	67	.
women	.	60	60	63	62	.
higher professional education	36	40	41	41	41	.
men	15	16	16	16	16	.
women	21	24	25	25	25	.
university bachelor's degree	0	19	20	22	25	.
men	0	8	8	9	11	.
women	0	11	12	13	14	.
university master's degree	11	13	14	15	16	.
men	5	5	5	5	6	.
women	6	8	9	9	10	.
Underprivileged pupils <sup>2)</sup>	.	113	154	207	196	187
boys	.	57	77	103	97	93
girls	.	56	77	104	99	94
0.30 factor pupils	.	68	91	120	112	105
1.20 factor pupils	.	44	63	87	85	82
	%					
Early school-leavers (12–22 years) <sup>3)</sup>	.	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.2	.
boys	.	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.7	.
girls	.	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.6	.
secondary education	.	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.1	.
senior secondary vocational education <sup>3)</sup>	.	8.5	7.7	7.6	7.3	.

Source: National Youth Monitor.

<sup>1)</sup> The figures for the most recent year are provisional.

<sup>2)</sup> Only children designated as underprivileged under the new regulation of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

<sup>3)</sup> Including external students.

## Key figures for young people on the labour market

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	<i>x 1,000</i>				
Number of employed young people (15–26 years)	686	683	649	619	626
men	365	356	333	318	323
women	321	327	315	301	303
native Dutch	558	559	524	512	518
western foreign background	49	47	47	40	43
non-western foreign background	77	75	74	63	63
with basic qualification	491	498	472	463	474
without basic qualification	177	170	157	139	135
Number of unemployed young people (15–26 years)	42	39	58	60	52
men	20	20	33	35	29
women	22	19	24	25	23
native Dutch	29	25	38	41	33
western foreign background	4	4	5	5	4
non-western foreign background	9	9	14	13	14
with basic qualification	20	19	30	33	30
without basic qualification	20	18	24	24	20
Number of young people (15–26 years) not in the labour force	97	92	100	99	96
men	34	31	37	40	39
women	63	61	63	59	58
native Dutch	56	55	60	58	59
western foreign background	10	8	11	12	10
non-western foreign background	30	28	28	28	27
with basic qualification	39	34	37	41	41
without basic qualification	53	54	58	55	50
Number of young people (18–26 years) claiming benefit <sup>1)</sup>	92	97	125	133	140
men	45	49	66	71	74
women	47	48	58	62	66
native Dutch	62	66	85	90	94
western foreign background	7	7	9	10	10
non-western foreign background	23	24	30	33	35
Number of young people (18–26 years) claiming unemployment benefit <sup>1)</sup>	9	12	24	20	22
Number of young people (18–26 years) claiming income support benefit <sup>1)</sup>	29	26	34	40	40
Number of young people (18–26 years) claiming disability benefit <sup>1)</sup>	56	60	68	73	79
of whom Wajong benefit	53	57	65	71	77

Source: National Youth Monitor.

<sup>1)</sup> Figures are provisional and refer to the end of each year.

## Key figures for young people and safety

	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
%						
Does not feel safe sometimes (15–24 years) <sup>1)</sup>	.	27.7	32.7	33.6	34.1	31.6
men	.	17.7	23.0	22.6	22.3	21.3
women	.	38.0	42.7	45.0	46.2	42.2
Victim of a criminal offence (15–24 years) <sup>1) 2)</sup>	.	39.3	36.2	38.2	35.4	35.6
men	.	40.2	35.8	39.2	34.8	35.7
women	.	38.3	36.7	37.2	35.9	33.4
Victim of a violent crime (15–24 years) <sup>1) 2)</sup>	.	12.9	13.2	13.4	12.1	11.6
men	.	15.1	14.4	15.0	13.6	12.6
women	.	10.6	12.0	11.7	10.5	10.5
Victim of a property crime (15–24 years) <sup>1) 2)</sup>	.	20.6	22.0	23.1	20.6	21.5
men	.	20.5	21.0	23.0	19.1	21.9
women	.	20.7	23.1	23.2	22.2	21.0
Victim of vandalism (15–24 years) <sup>1) 2)</sup>	.	8.7	12.9	14.2	11.7	10.9
men	.	7.1	11.6	14.5	10.6	11.0
women	.	10.3	14.2	13.9	12.8	10.7
x 1,000						
Referred to Halt scheme for young offenders (12–17 years) <sup>3)</sup>	.	23	21	20	17	18
boys	.	17	16	15	12	13
girls	.	5	5	5	5	5
Interviewed by the police (12–17 years) <sup>3)</sup>	17	32	29	25	22	18
boys	15	26	23	20	18	15
girls	3	7	6	5	4	3
in connection with:						
violent crime	5	10	9	7	6	5
property crime	9	14	12	11	10	8
vandalism	5	12	10	8	7	5
other offence	2	5	4	4	3	3
Interviewed by the police (18–24 years) <sup>3)</sup>	34	56	54	51	49	46
men	30	48	46	44	41	39
women	4	8	8	8	8	7
in connection with:						
violent crime	8	16	16	14	13	12
property crime	12	17	16	16	16	15
vandalism	8	15	14	13	12	10
other offence	12	21	21	19	18	18
Settled by Public Prosecutor's Office (12–24 years)	40	52	52	48	37	36
minors (12–17 years)	17	25	24	21	18	16
boys	15	20	20	17	14	13
girls	2	5	5	4	4	4
young adults (18–24 years)	23	27	27	27	19	20
men	20	23	23	23	16	16
women	2	4	4	4	3	3
Settled by judge (12–24 years)	34	44	45	43	32	35
minors (12–17 years)	9	13	13	12	10	9
boys	8	11	11	10	9	8
girls	1	2	2	2	1	1
young adults (18–24 years)	25	31	32	31	21	26
men	22	27	28	28	19	23
women	2	4	4	4	3	3

Source: National Youth Monitor.

<sup>1)</sup> For 2007 figures are from the National Safety Monitor, for the other years figures are from the Integrated Safety Monitor. The figures from these two monitors are not directly comparable.

<sup>2)</sup> Figures for the years 2008–2011 are provisional.

<sup>3)</sup> The figures for the most recent year are provisional.