



YouthPartnership

FACTSHEET

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION/ EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN NETHERLANDS



YouthPartnership
Council of Europe
European Commission



c/o Council of Europe :: Directorate of Youth and Sport :: F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France
Fax: (33) 3 88 412 778 :: E-mail: youth-partnership@coe.int :: www.youth-partnership.net

Table of contents

1) Risk of poverty	3
2) Social Subsistence/Protection	3
3) Equal opportunities	3
ANNEX 5	4
ANNEX 6	5

1) Risk of poverty

	Sources	Year	Age Range	%
At risk of poverty by age (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006	Less than 18	14,00
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: work income	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		68,30
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Unemployment benefit	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		3,40
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Family allowance	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		7,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		52,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		13,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		5,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		2,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Single parent with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		32,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household without dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		9,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		11,00

2) Social Subsistence/Protection

A short description of country's social protection system and list of the benefits young people are entitled to	Annex 5
---	----------------

3) Equal opportunities

A description of the forms of inequality, which young people may confront in their home country (eg. gender, religion/belief, ethnic origin, disability, geographical location related inequality)	Annex 6
--	----------------

ANNEX 5

SOCIAL SUBSISTENCE / PROTECTION IN THE NETHERLANDS

Social protection means all income support for people who are unable to provide for themselves due to illness, long-term incapacity to work, unemployment or retirement (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13013&lijstm=0,310_6058).

All residents must take out health insurance. *Health insurance policies* are based on benefits in kind and policies based on reimbursement of medical costs. All residents are insured and all insured persons aged 18 and older pay a nominal premium. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/missoc_tables_en.htm.)

The Disablement Assistance Act for Handicapped Young Persons makes provision for a minimum benefit for young people who are handicapped. It is meant for young people who are incapable for work when reaching the age of 17 or have become disabled since that date and have been students for period of at least 6 months in the year immediately prior to that date. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en.)

Other income must be less than the due social minimum, so that individual can get social assistance. The income of the partner living together with the claimant is reduced by the differential supplement. There is no right to supplementary benefit for unmarried persons under 21 living with their parents or for persons living with a partner, either married or not, born after 31 December 1971 who do not have any children under 12 living at home. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en.)

One qualifies for child benefit under *the General Child Benefit Act* if insured is having one or more children or maintain the child. Age limit entitlement is 17 years. Children who have lost both parents are entitled to an orphans' benefit up to the age of 16 years, or in the case of invalidity up to the age of 18 and up to the age of 21 if the child is a student. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en.)

The economic decline and the ageing people are putting pressure on the Dutch system of social protection. An important principle in government policy is that everyone capable of working is also stimulated to do so. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13013&lijstm=0,310_6058.)

Unemployment Benefit Act is meant for all employees between 18-65 years. People aged 21 or 22 may get less benefits if the municipalities find that full benefit makes employment financially unattractive. The level for young persons under 21 years is based on child allowance figures. If these young persons are facing higher living costs, then their parents must take responsibility for them. If parental support is impossible, a supplementary allowance can be claimed under *the special assistance scheme*. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en ; http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/missoc_tables_en.htm.)

Everyone must try to get work, accept a suitable employment and be registered at the Centre for Work and Income. Medical and social conditions are taken into account. If a person is taking care of one or more children aged under 5 years, there is no obligation to look for work. If the children are aged 5 or older, cases are examined individually to decide the exemption from this obligation.

(http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en ; http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/missoc_tables_en.htm.)

Sources

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/missoc_tables_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/db/public/compareTables.do?lang=en

http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13013&lijstm=0,310_6058

ANNEX 6

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NETHERLANDS

Equality means equal opportunities, rights, freedoms and responsibilities for all Dutch citizens, regardless of their sex, origin or orientation. The equality policy is based on equal opportunities and work, care and training. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021.)

Gender

Increasing possibilities for men and women to combine work, care and education is another important element of equality policy in the Netherlands. Female participation in the labour market is still too low and that holds back many women from being able to support themselves. One of the main causes is the lack of adequate opportunities to combine work and care. A range of legislative and financial measures are planned to increase women's choice. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021.)

Working life

Equal work has to be rewarded at the same way. Employer is not allowed to benefit from the one employee being prepared to do the same work for a lower wage than another employee. This does not mean that everybody in the same job earns the same wage. An employer can give someone with a lot of experience a higher wage than someone who has just started, for instance. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021.)

Discrimination

Discrimination on any grounds is prohibited by Article 1 of the Constitution. This means that no one may be treated unequally due to his religion, creed, political convictions, race, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or chronic illness, age, employment hours or type of work contract. Unequal treatment based on these grounds of discrimination is forbidden in all kinds of employment, in offering goods and services and in educational and career counselling. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021.)

The Dutch government believes it is notable to provide effective protection against unequal treatment through accessible rules and regulations. It is also all-important to ensure that all citizens have equal opportunities in employment. Commitment to these principles supports the policy focus on promoting participation in employment by women, ethnic minorities and the disabled. The equal treatment policy aims to encourage all employers and employees to take responsibility for equal treatment. (http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021.)

Education

The Dutch people are highly educated. One out of three school-leavers completes a first university degree. As a traditional centre of knowledge the country will face a number of challenges in the coming years, the most important of which are the need to make further improvements in the quality of education and to provide equal opportunities for everybody, variety of choice in education and specially tailored content and counselling. The greatest threat is the increasing teacher shortage in all kind of schooling as primary, secondary, university and professional education. (<http://www.minocw.nl/english/index.html>.)

Safe environment in childhood

All children have the right to develop in a healthy and harmonious environment until they reach adulthood and achieve independence. Unfortunately, some children find themselves in such circumstances that make this impossible. In that case the Ministry on Justice has the power, and sometimes even a statutory obligation, to intervene. The law must always react, but preferably in a way that steers the development of the children in the right direction. (<http://english.justitie.nl/organisation/tasks/youth/index.aspx>)

Sources

http://internationalezaken.szw.nl/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_rubriek&rubriek_id=13021

<http://www.minocw.nl/english/index.html>

<http://english.justitie.nl/organisation/tasks/youth/index.aspx>

