

**ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE NETHERLANDS 2008**  
**CHALLENGES FACING THE DUTCH ECONOMY**

*This is an excerpt of the OECD Economic Survey of the Netherlands, 2008,  
from the section on labour supply in Chapter 1: Challenges facing the Dutch economy.*

[www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/Netherlands](http://www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/Netherlands)

The overall concern of this is to investigate measures to boost the effective labour supply. The main challenges in this respect include:

- Addressing the effects of population ageing on the sustainability of the public finances (Chapter 2).
- Boosting the labour market involvement of under-participating groups, notably recipients of out-of-work benefits (Chapter 3).
- Helping parents reconcile work and family responsibilities, so as to facilitate fuller participation and promote female careers (Chapter 4).
- Improving immigration policy and the integration of immigrants (Chapter 5).

Key words:

Netherlands; fiscal sustainability; first-pillar pensions; pre-funding; retirement age; labour participation; female participation; working hours; unemployment benefits; social assistance; activation policies; disability; sickness leave; older workers; inactivity traps, childcare; tax reform; immigration policy; integration; knowledge workers.