

Facts and figures about international employees in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

Date: 9 January 2020
Produced by IN Amsterdam

1. Definition of an international employee

An international employee is an economically active employee in paid employment at an organisation that is established in the Netherlands, for whom income tax and insurance contributions have been paid to the Dutch Tax Authority (Belastingdienst) and who is of a foreign nationality and not a holder of Dutch citizenship.ⁱ

2. Facts and figures

The number of international employees working in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area (AMA)

- There were 176,000 international employees in the AMA in 2017.
- There were 94,300 international employees in (the city of) Amsterdam in 2017.
- 67% of all international employees in the province of Noord-Holland were between 25 and 45 years old.
- 43% of the international employees in 2017 were female, 57% were male.

Salaries of international employees in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Areaⁱⁱ

- 52% of the international employees earned less than €30,000 per year.
- 28% of the international employees earned between €30,000 and €50,000 per year.
- 15% of the international employees earned between €50,000 and €100,000 per year.
- 4% of the international employees earned more than €100,000 per year.

Salaries of international employees in (the city of) Amsterdamⁱⁱ

- 44% of the international employees earned less than €30,000 per year.
- 31% of the international employees earned between €30,000 and €50,000 per year.
- 19% of the international employees earned between €50,000 and €100,000 per year.
- 5% of the international employees earned more than €100,000 per year.

Housing

The number of international employees that live in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Areaⁱ

- Almost 130,000 international employees live in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area.
- Almost 78,000 international employees live in (the city of) Amsterdam.

- The majority of international employees live in Amsterdam, followed by Amstelveen, Haarlem and Almere.
- 22% of international employees in the AMA own their home.
- 50% of international employees in the AMA live in a rental accommodation.

Education

International students and children in the AMAⁱ

- In the 2018-2019 academic year, there were 12,858 international students registered in Amsterdam. That was 11.8% of the total student population in the region
- There were 50,000 international children living in the AMA in 2017
- 16,000 of the international children in 2017 were aged 0 to 3
- 22,500 of the international children in 2017 were aged 4 to 11
- 11,500 of the international children in 2017 were aged 12 to 19

3. The economic impact of internationals and international businesses

- 32% of all private sector jobs in the Amsterdam Area are created by foreign companies.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Foreign companies create around 230,000 direct jobs in the AMA, as well as approximately 230,000 indirect jobs.^{iv}
- Companies need international employees because:
 - they have knowledge of international markets and business management;
 - they have access to cross-border networks;
 - there are shortages of talent in the local labour market, for example in IT or agriculture;
 - cultural diversity on the work floor can lead to higher productivity and innovation.

Sources

ⁱ Monitor internationale werknemers [International Employees Monitor], www.metropoolregioamsterdam.nl/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Monitor-internationale-werknemers-Metropoolregio-Amsterdam-2019.pdf, 30 September 2019, produced by Desicio Economisch Onderzoeksbureau.

ⁱⁱ The salary is based on the gross wage. The gross wage is the income upon which payroll tax is calculated and which is requested by the Dutch Tax Authority (Belastingdienst) at the time of the income declaration. It includes one-off payments, such as holiday pay, overtime, etc. However certain premiums, such as pension, are excluded.

Monitor internationale werknemers [International Employees Monitor], *ibid.*

ⁱⁱⁱ CBS: Internationaliseringsmonitor 2015, derde kwartaal [Internationalisation Monitor 2015, 3rd Quarter], www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2015/30/internationaliseringsmonitor-2015-derde-kwartaal

^{iv} CBS research: almost one extra indirect job created for every direct job, www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2017/50/bijna-1-4-mln-voltijdbanen-door-buitenlandse-bedrijven