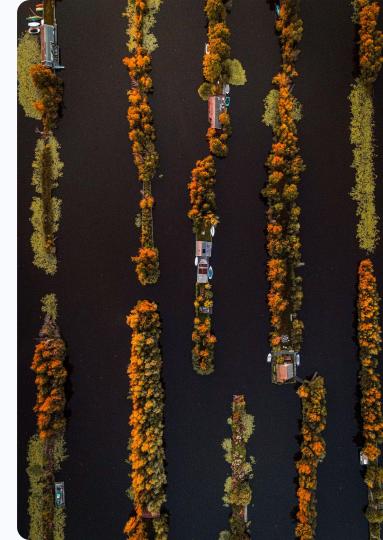


techleap.пl



# Dutch Tech Startup Employment 2023

Fifth Edition, December 2023



In a year where the markets are finding their feet, The tech sector in the Netherlands continues to be a thriving space for innovation and building new businesses, fostering an environment that encourages not just the birth of new companies but a space for them to scale. The culture of innovation can be felt throughout our entrepreneurial ecosystem, and this report once again underscores the important role played by startups, scaleups, and grownups as key job creators in the Netherlands.

While a lot has been achieved over the past year, it is important to acknowledge the challenges that persist. In the realm of scaling businesses, despite several remarkable success stories, in the Netherlands still a relatively limited number of companies are breaking through the startup phase to achieve significant scale. One of the notable hurdles is the pressing issue of skills, particularly in the tech sector.

We're seeing that 65% of companies still struggle to find talent locally and with approximately 6000 open roles in startups, the demand for certain critical skills in sales and engineering remain a perennial issue. The recent adjustments to the 30% ruling this year furthermore places a question mark about what the impact on international talent might be and whether it will further intensify the existing skills gap. Besides the skills gap, company culture remains an important subject for companies to remain competitive in this ever changing landscape. It is a given that being inclusive as an employer becomes more and more essential to be able to attract and retain talent.76% of employees are looking for a diverse and inclusive employer when deciding on changing jobs. On the gender pay gap, as one of the factors that give an indication of inclusivity, with a pay gap of 23% in the Netherlands, it is clear that there is a lot to be done. And that starts with the right data. That is why I believe this report is important, not only as a snapshot of our current status but as a call to action for companies and policy makers to invest time and energy into the areas that are necessary to keep building a thriving space that empowers both new and existing companies in the Netherlands.

> Marieke van Iperen CEO & Co-founder at Settly

# Foreword **OSettl**y

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## What you need to know.



## Dutch startups create 256K jobs globally, 155K of which are located in 50+ cities across the Netherlands.

6 out of 10 jobs created by Dutch startups in the Netherlands are outside of Amsterdam. Whilst Amsterdam remains a key ecosystem with global relevance, this report shows that the next generation of Dutch tech successes can come from anywhere. The story of the Dutch ecosystem is one of excellence and innovation. Increasingly so, it is also one of local value creation driven the improvement of local know-how to scale companies, the rise of new leading segments like impact and deep tech around knowledge hubs across the country, and a growing number of academic spinouts within them. Startups with small teams (<50) form the bedrock of the Dutch startup job market, providing 37% of all jobs and the vast majority of new jobs created this year.

The Netherlands is home to 6.1K startups with teams up to 50 employees. These startups jointly create 72K jobs, 80% of which are in the Netherlands. While these startups already provide a significant share of employment, and nearly all net new jobs created this year, they also constitute a largely underused source of future growth. Indeed, many of these startups have not (yet) embarked on a venture-backed journey. Being tied to their current revenue to grow and create jobs means that they do so at a much slower pace.



The Dutch startup sector is hungry for talents with a variety of skills. Startups face tough competition to attract those that are most in demand, like Tech roles, and they must compete to retain them.

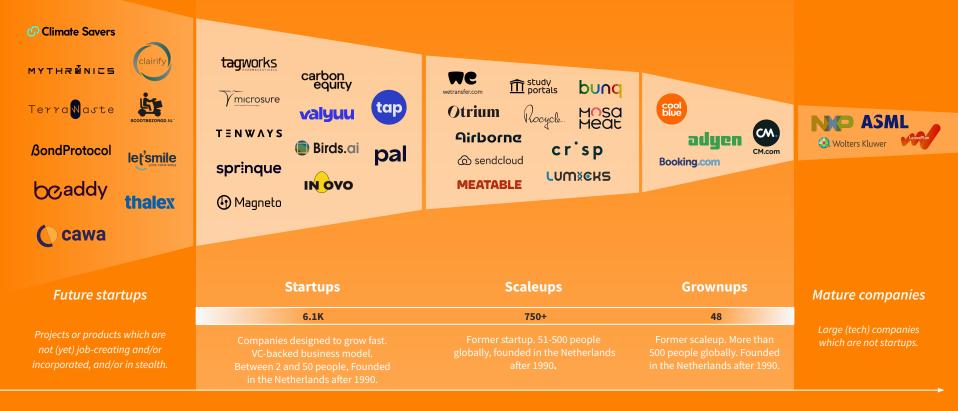
In spite of slower headcount growth at well-known Dutch startups, the broader Dutch startup sector remains a catalyst for job creation: this report includes 16K jobs that weren't tracked last year, many of which are net new jobs, as well as existing jobs at companies that did not follow a startup-like growth trajectory previously. The job board powered by Dealroom and Techleap includes 6K job openings at Dutch startups, a quarter of which are Development roles. However startups are facing significant challenges to attract and retain talent, especially on these roles in tension, as those are in high demand across the entire economy.

## This is the 5th edition of the Netherlands Startup Employment report by Techleap.nl, CBRE and Dealroom.co



» View all reports

# This report focuses on Dutch startups at various stages of maturity and funding, so long as they create jobs in the Netherlands.

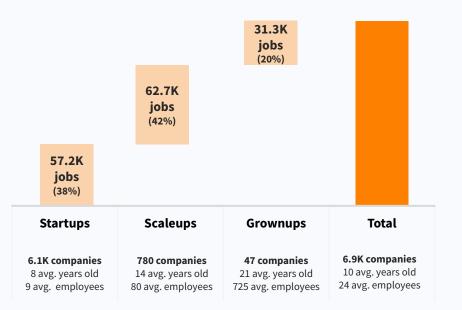


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# **1** Where do Dutch startups create jobs & value.

#### Employees by company type.

151K local jobs at homegrown startups, scaleups and grownups.

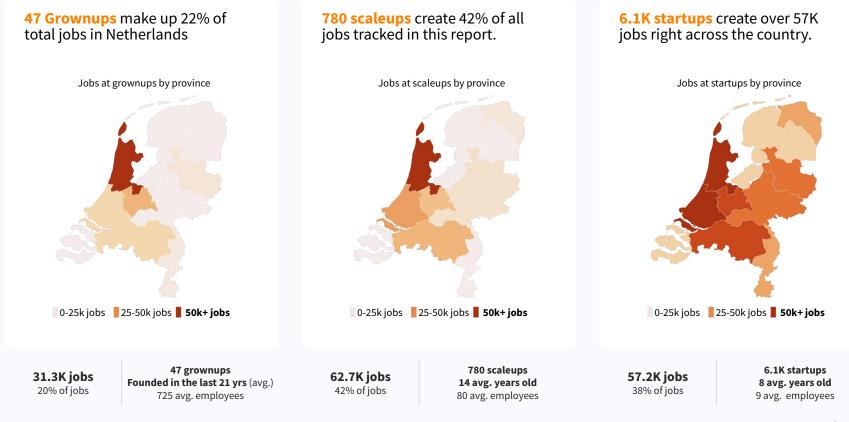


## Introduction by techleap.⊓l

**66** In the vibrant landscape of the tech ecosystem in the Netherlands, 151,000 jobs stand as a testament to the pivotal role played by VC-backed startups, scale-ups, and grown-ups as architects of employment. Beyond this reported number, the employment statistics from the entire community, including bootstrapped startups, nascent startups which do not yet support the livelihoods of their founders, foreign startups, are expected to even double or quadruple this number. These entrepreneurial companies are not just businesses; they are architects of a new employment era, each job a catalyst for a ripple effect of opportunities. The employees working at these companies create and innovate, they work on future challenges and contribute to the economic strengths of the Netherlands.

» Explore the Dutch tech ecosystem

# The Dutch startup ecosystem is growing increasingly decentralized: the next generation of successes can come from anywhere, and already creates value and jobs across the country.



As a standalone sector of the economy, Dutch startups represent a significant, but most importantly, fast growing employment pool.

### Jobs in the Dutch economy by sector

79K

75K

9K

					2M	Accommodation & food services	
				3	2M	Human health & social work	
				1M		Information & communication	
			876K			Dutch Startups, Scaleups & Grownups	16K
			820K			Education	
		629K				Construction	13K
		582K				Arts, entertainment & recreation	
		546K				Public administration & defence	бK
		524K				Manufacturing	
	43	5K				Financial & insurance activities	
	383I 239K	к				Professional, scientific & technical activities	4K
	220K					Electricity, gas & water supply	
	202K					Transportation & storage	4K
	202K					Administrative & support activities	
1	51K					Real estate activities	
						Mining & quarrying	
'9K						Agriculture, forestry & fishing	
'5K						Other services	
						Wholesale & retail trade	
						Wholesale & retail trade	

## Jobs added in 2023 by sector

# "

The ever-growing tech sector provides a strong foundation for the Dutch office market."

Despite economic headwinds, the tech sector has become a stable and well established economic force in the Netherlands. And not just in the Randstad area, with growing numbers across the Netherlands. With their growth they have become an important counterforce for various traditional corporates that are reducing their office demand in recent years.

> Daan van der Velden Associate Director at CBRE



Page / 10 Source:

Human health & social work Wholesale & retail trade Administrative & support activities Professional, scientific & technical

Public administration & defence

Accommodation & food services Transportation & storage

Information & communication

Financial & insurance activities

Arts, entertainment & recreation

Agriculture, forestry & fishing

Dutch Startups, Scaleups &

Electricity, gas & water supply

Mining & quarrying

activities

Manufacturing Education

Construction

Other services

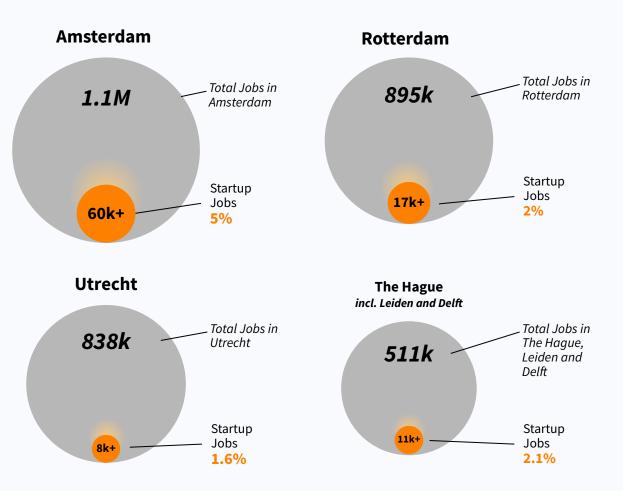
Grownups Real estate activities

> Startup data: Dealroom.co | Conventional economy: CBRE data, based on CBS data. Double counting may occur across various categories. Jobs added by Dutch startups include new jobs at existing companies, jobs at newly-created companies as well as jobs which existed the previous year but were not counted in the previous report. See methodology for more.

Dutch Startups are significant employers, but their importance on a local scale varies widely across the country.

In Amsterdam, Dutch startups account for 5% of all jobs in the city. Jobs at startups out of the scope of this report, including bootstrapped, foreign startups and domestic micro-startups, are likely to at least double this figure. In other Dutch cities, this proportion is significantly lower, albeit on the rise in recent years.

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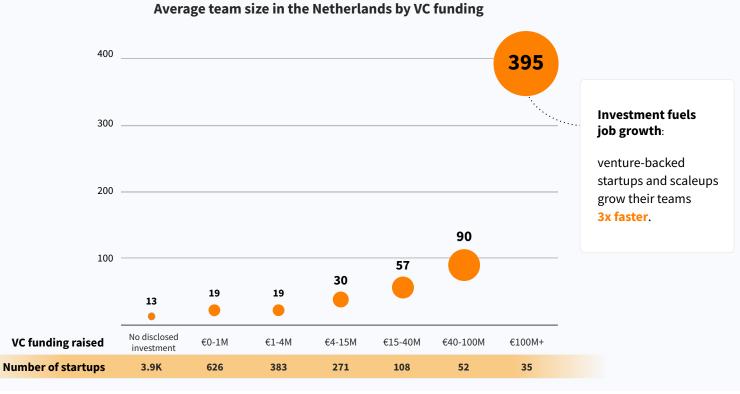


Dealroom.co & CBRE employment data | The CBRE dataset includes employment values for The Netherlands and the metropolitan areas Source: of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht which for the purposes of this chart we calculate as the adjusted Randstad. \*CBRE estimated employment numbers



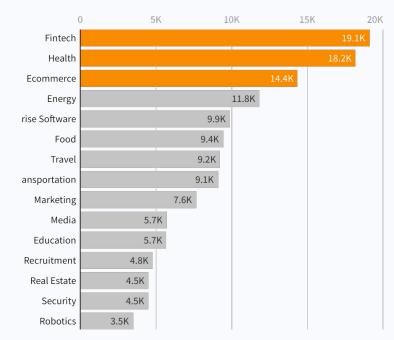
# **3** How venture backing unlocks growth, job and value creation.

VC investment boosts headcount growth overtime: on average, Series A+ startups scale over 3x faster than startups in Seed stage.



Page / 13 Source: Dealroom.co

# 1/3 of startup jobs are at Fintech, Health and eCommerce startups.



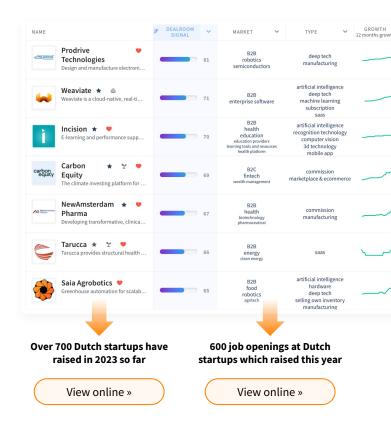
## Startup jobs by industry, 2023\*

### VC investment by industry, 2023

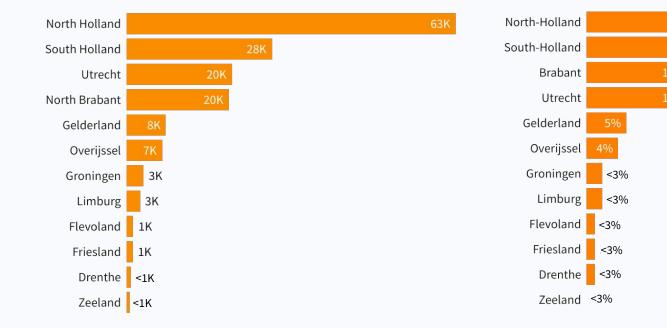


Startups in 50 cities right across the Netherlands have raised VC funding so far in 2023.





## VC funding is a catalyst for job creation, startup jobs are highly concentrated in the West. This has a seizable impact on the geographical distribution of startup jobs



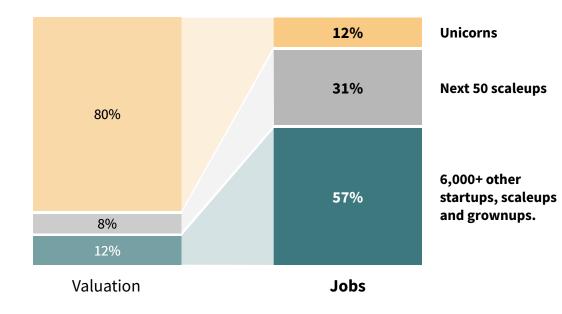
## Startup jobs by province in 2023

### Geographical distribution of startup jobs across Dutch provinces.

# 2 Which Dutch startups create jobs & value.

# Whilst unicorns lead for ecosystem valuation, it's the smaller startups and scaleups that create over 3 out of 4 startup jobs in the Netherlands.

Proportion of Dutch ecosystem valuation and startup job employment by company size



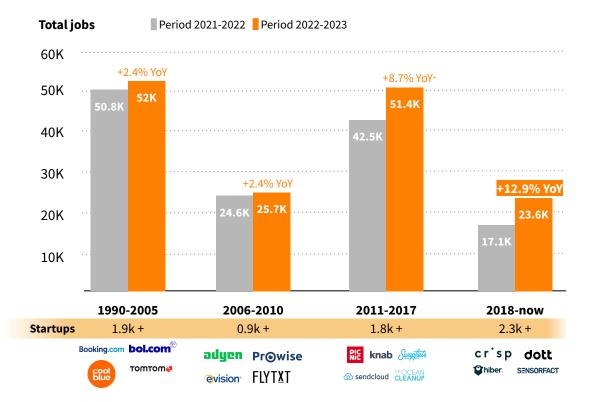
Dutch startups with teams of up to 50 support 57,000 jobs within the country and 72,000+ jobs globally. This represents 37% of total Dutch startup employment.

Many of these companies are future successes and add the most new jobs year-on-year, especially at a time when more established and larger companies have been downsizing.

Unicorns, despite their notoriety, only provide about 12% of all opportunities in the Dutch startup ecosystem.

Booking.com remains the largest employer in our dataset, supporting 5,900 jobs within the Netherlands.

## Most <u>new</u> jobs are being created by startups founded in the last 12 years.

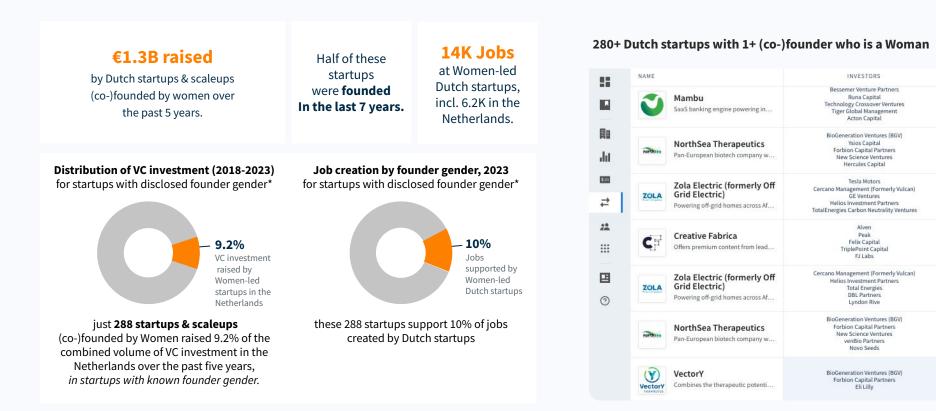


Age matters in startups: companies founded up until 2005 have historically provided the lion's share of total jobs with early successes of the Dutch ecosystem likes of Booking.com and TomTom and thousands of employees on their payroll.

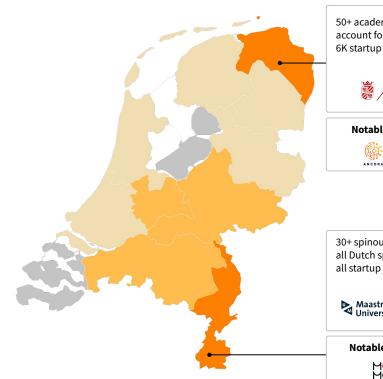
For the first time this year, another cohort of startups founded in a short 5-year interval, between 2011 and 2017, is now providing as many jobs.

On the whole, hiring pace and headcount growth has significantly slowed in all but one cohort. The youngest group of companies, i.e. those founded since 2018, already supports >23K jobs and most importantly, records the fastest growth rate year-on-year.

## 280+ Dutch startups & scaleups (co-)founded by women support 6.2K+ jobs.



# In Limburg and Groningen, spinouts account for a record number of jobs.



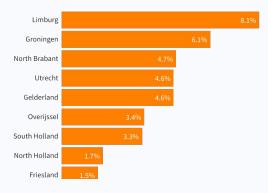
50+ academic spinouts in Groningen account for over 6% of the Province's 6K startup jobs. Spinouts from:

Notable spinouts in Groningen

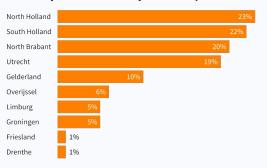
30+ spinouts from Limburg - just 5% of all Dutch spinouts - account for 8% of all startup jobs in Limburg. Spinouts from:

Maastricht W Maastricht Brightlands Notable spinouts from Limburg MOSQ MLA MOQL MLA

# Share of jobs at spin-offs, compared to all startup jobs, 2023



# Geographic distribution of Dutch spinouts across provinces, 2023

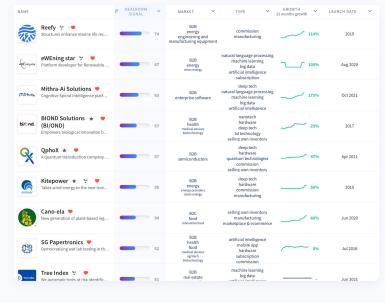


## There is a growing community of foreign alumni from Dutch universities. Many stayed on to found startups in the Netherlands, delivering value and creating jobs locally.

Many European and international students chose the Netherlands to study. Dealroom identified over 250 founders who relocated to the Netherlands to pursue postgraduate education (Masters, MBA, PhD) at Dutch universities, after earning a first degree abroad (bachelor or college education).

Over half of these students stayed in the Netherlands and (co-)founded **100 Dutch startups.** These startups have already gone to raise over €50M and created 500 jobs in the Netherlands.

Another 120+ founders relocated abroad after their studies in the Netherlands. They went on to (co-)found 130 VC-backed startups in 46 countries, creating 5.1K jobs globally. These startups jointly raised \$310M in 2023 so far, and \$1.4B over the past 5 years.



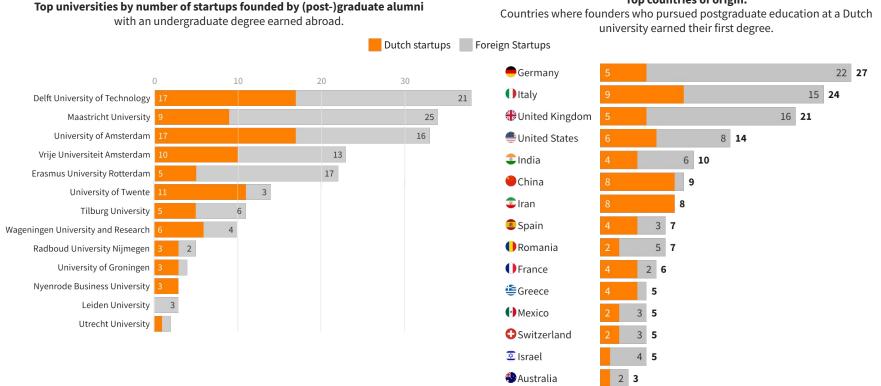
500+ iobs created in the Netherlands

€50M+

In VC funding raised across 75 deals

» View 100+ startups

## This pool of foreign is scattered across all Dutch research universities concentrating over half of them. Most of those who came from outside the EU remain in the Netherlands to found their startup.



Top countries of origin:

Dealroom.co. A foreign founder is defined as an alumni of a Dutch university with a postgraduate degree and an Source: undergraduate degree exclusively issued by a non-Dutch university. Further definitions in the methodology. Dataset: 733 founder profiles with matching criteria analysed.

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Many Dutch startups move parts of their operations overseas as they scale. A handful of them relocate altogether.

But most keep significant activity in the Netherlands, along with over 4.5K jobs.



# What is next for the Dutch startup job market.

### With insights from

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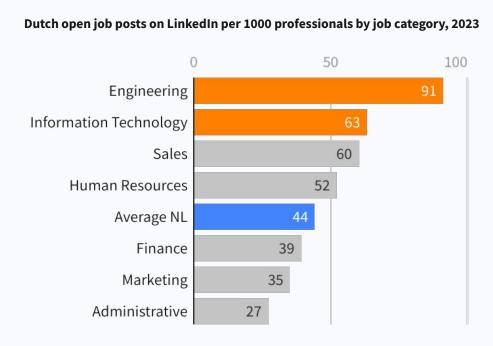
ravio

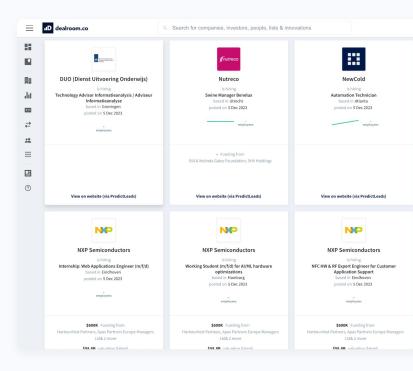
Ravio is on a mission to empower companies to build high performing teams and ensure they are paid fairly, with compensation intelligence designed specifically for high-growth technology companies. Companies like Delivery Hero, Personio, Alan, Vestiaire Collective, and WeTransfer use Ravio to attract, retain, and motivate world class talent.



LinkedIn Talent Solutions provides access to a comprehensive database of talent profiles, along with real-time insights into market trends and competitor activity.

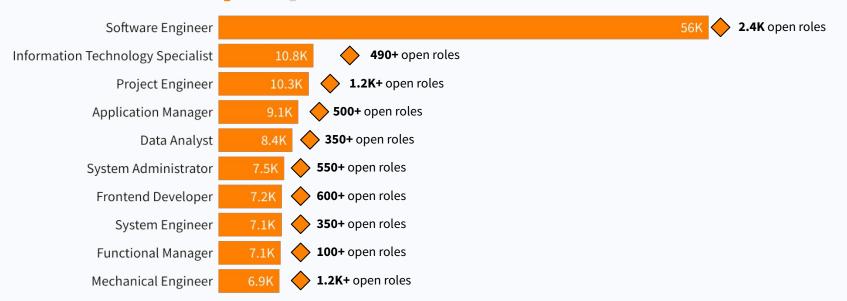
The Dutch job market has become notoriously tight, with "tech" roles in great demand right across the economy. Linkedin data shows that Engineering and IT roles across every sectors are the most in demand.





## "Tech" jobs are difficult to fill for every company, including startups. Linkedin Data shows that Software Engineers are by far the most in demand.

### Number of professionals by job type and associated open roles, 2023

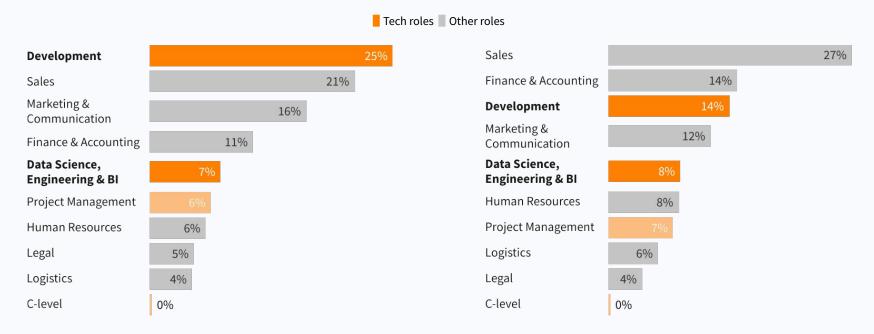


#### Tech roles Non-Tech roles

## A quarter of all open positions at Dutch startups in the Netherlands are for Dev roles. This compares to just 14% globally. But you do not need a tech background to join a Tech startup: 70%+ of open positions are for non-tech roles.



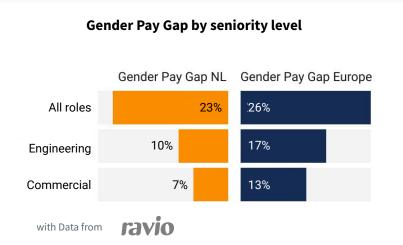
% of vacancies by roles at startups globally, 2023 January-November 2023, 0.9M openings



Source: Dealroom.co, Dataset: NI = 10K, of which 6.5K with role classification disclosed. Global: 1.7M, 0.93K with role classification disclosed. Dev roles include DevOps, iOS & Android Development, Full-stack, Frontend & Backend development roles. MarCom includes Design roles.



The Gender Pay Gap remains a significant challenge for startups across Europe. Dutch startups are not immune: although they fare better as a whole, the disparities remain high in high-paying and senior roles.



On average, Dutch companies are doing a better job than Europe at reducing the Gender Pay Gap.

In both in Engineering and Commercial roles, and particularly in the more junior and lower management roles.

### **Ravio Gender Pay Gap**

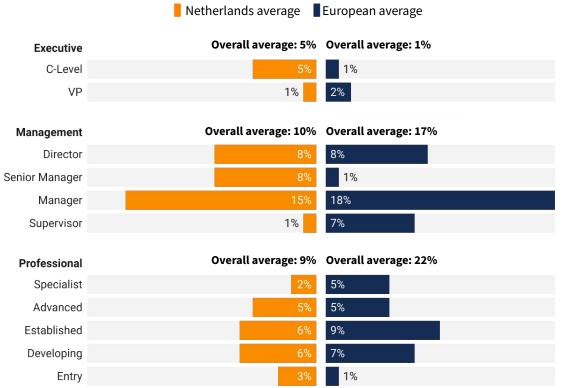
European tech startups have a key role to play in eliminating gender inequality, and addressing bias in pay to close the gender pay gap.

Companies are under increasing scrutiny to do so, with stricter gender pay gap reporting soon to come into effect under the EU Pay Transparency Directive. Plus, today's employees expect the companies they work for to be driving progress on diversity and inclusion, so it's essential to create a strong employer value proposition and be competitive in today's compensation market.



Persistent disparities continue to exist when it comes to the Gender Pay Gap in the Netherlands. High-paying jobs and those with more responsibilities within management to executive positions are most affected.

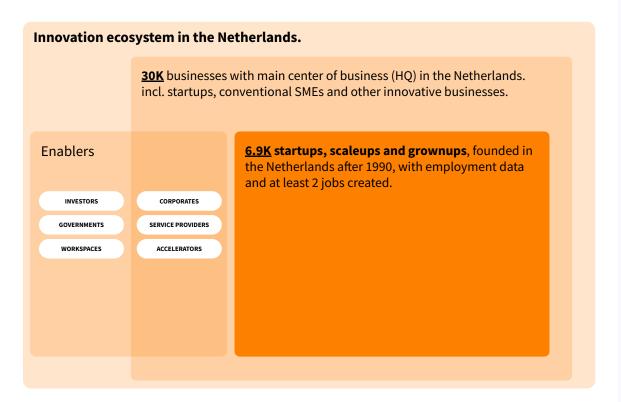
with Data from



# Gender Pay Gap by Job Type



## Scope of this report.



# What changed since last year?

Startups in this report series change from one year to the next, as it follows the fast-paced evolution of startup ecosystems. Up to 70% of startups ultimately fail according to Dealroom research. Startups generate value Throughout their lifecycle, including in terms of job creation, value and opportunities brought to their local communities.

Therefore this report includes all job-creating startups operating independently, i.e. non-acquired, funded startups with employees which are not part of the founding team. Some acquired startups may be included so long as they maintain distinct and quantifiable operations from their acquiror.

## Methodology

In this report, the term "tech ecosystem" refers to all startups, scaleups and grownups headquartered in the Netherlands. Only companies founded in or after 1990 are included in this report. This report may refer simply to startups as a container for startups, scaleups and grownups.

**Startup** A company designed to grow fast. Generally, such companies are VC-investable businesses. <u>» read more</u>

**Unicorn** Tech enabled company founded after 1990, valued over \$1 billion. <u>» read more</u>

**Local jobs** Jobs created by dutch startups in the Netherlands. Part-time, contract-based and internships are generally included, but self-employed jobs assimilated to the "gig-economy" are not. Note: unless otherwise mentioned, "jobs" refer to local jobs throughout this report.

**Global jobs** All jobs created by Dutch startups in the Netherlands and abroad.

### What is a startup?

"A startup is a company designed to grow fast" wrote <u>Paul Graham</u>, the legendary startup builder, investor and co-founder of Y Combinator. At Dealroom, we've found this the most useful explanation of the term startup.

Read more: "What is a startup?" by Dealroom.co

#### What about tech?

Indeed, most startups are tech enabled. But so are lots of companies. Many traditional companies work more deeply on technology than the majority of startups. The real common denominator is not tech, but the intention to scale very rapidly.

## Startup jobs?

This reports focuses on jobs created by Dutch startups in the Netherlands. Startups founded abroad, which later relocated to the Netherlands (Mambu), and those which relocated abroad (Elastic), are also included.

Part-time, contract-based and internships are included, but outsourced and "gig-economy" jobs are not. Jobs created by Dutch startups outside of the netherlands (i.e. global jobs) are not included.

### **Sectors & Industries**

Industry classification follows Dealroom's proprietary taxonomy, which was built specifically for startups. A given startup may belong to up to two industries.

Glossary & Definitions

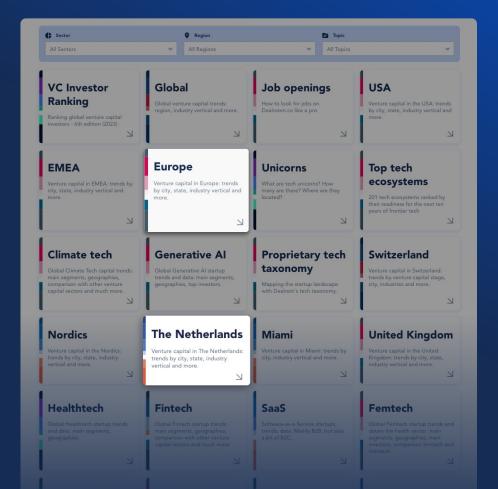
### Venture Capital, Investors

Investment numbers refer to rounds such as Seed, Series A, B, C, ... late stage, and growth equity rounds. VC investment figures exclude debt or other non-equity funding, lending capital, grants and ICOs.

Investment rounds are sourced from public disclosures including press releases, news, filings and verified, user-submitted information.

For live updating data on the Netherlands startup ecosystem visit dealroom.co/**guides** 





# CBRE

CBRE Group, Inc. is the world's largest commercial real estate services and investment firm, with 2019 revenues of \$23.9 billion and more than 100,000 employees (excluding affiliate offices). CBRE offers a broad range of integrated services, including facilities, transaction and project management; property management; investment management; appraisal and valuation; property leasing; strategic consulting; property sales; mortgage services and development services.

# techleap.nl

At Techleap.nl, it is our mission to establish the Netherlands as the ideal place to start, scale, and internationalize innovative businesses. With our unique connection to the government, corporations, investment funds, startups, and innovation hubs, we aim to merge the Dutch startup ecosystem into one single connected and ambitious hub. We break down barriers and improve access to talent, capital and markets. Special Envoy to Techleap.nl is Constantijn van Oranje.

## D dealroom.co

Dealroom.co is the foremost data provider on startup, early-stage and growth company ecosystems in Europe and around the globe.

Founded in Amsterdam in 2013, we now work with many of the world's most prominent investors, entrepreneurs and government organizations to provide transparency, analysis and insights on venture capital activity. Our offerings include data sets via SaaS and API as well as custom reports and bespoke ecosystem platforms.

