

## Official Statistics System seminar:

### A house price index for the Netherlands based on the SPAR method

**Speaker:** Jan de Haan, Statistics Netherlands

**When:** Tuesday, 15 December 2009, 10.30am – 11.30am.

**Where:** Nau Mai Meeting Room, Ground Floor, Te Puni Kokiri House, 143 Lambton Quay, Wellington.

**Seminar:** Within the European Union there has been a push to provide European government and the European Central Bank with the statistics they need for monitoring the owner-occupied sector. Jan de Haan, from Statistics Netherlands, will present on the development of house price indexes for the Netherlands. From January 2008, Kadaster, the Dutch land registry office, and Statistics Netherlands began jointly publishing house price index numbers for the whole country and for some specific dwelling types and regions. A number of special institutional features of the situation in the Netherlands contributed to the choice of index construction method. The indexes are computed using the Sale Price Appraisal Ratio (SPAR) method, which utilises the ratios of transaction prices and previous appraisal values. The SPAR method performs well compared to repeat sales methods and the results are of particular interest to New Zealand, where a SPAR method has been applied since the 1960s.

Jan de Haan has worked for Statistics Netherlands since 1986. Much of his work is on price measurement, for example the use of scanner data and hedonics and, over the last couple of years, house price measurement. He is currently involved in writing a handbook on Residential Property Price Indices, together with Bert Balk, Erwin Diewert, David Fenwick and Marc Prud'homme. The project is led by Statistics Netherlands and financed by Eurostat. The final version of the handbook should be available by May 2011.

**To register:** Please complete the [online registration form](#) for this seminar.

Numbers are limited and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.