Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Manufacturing tunrover up by more than a quarter

Turnover in the Dutch manufacturing industry was 28% higher in May this year than in the same month last year. This very strong increase can be entirely attributed to the three extra working days in May this year and higher selling prices. Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands show that exports were 32% up, while sales on the domestic market were 24% higher. The petrochemical industry accounted for half the turnover increase. The growth in this sector was mainly caused by the very substantial price rises.

Effect of extra working days and higher prices

Three extra working days and higher selling prices pushed up maunfacturing turnover in May 2000. Statistics Netherlands puts the effect of the three extra working days at 15%, while compared with May last year, the prices of manufactured products were 13% higher. Over half of this price increase is the consequence of the very considerable incease in the selling prices of oil products.

Sharp rise in sales by petrochemical industry

Turnover in the oil industry doubled between May last year and May this year. But prices, too, are double what they were last year. Turnover also increased in the chemical sector: it was a third higher than in May 1999, while prices rose by one fifth.

All the other manufacturing sectors also reported substantially increased turnover, ranging from 18 to 25%.

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