



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Manufacturing prices slightly down in February***

Prices of Dutch manufactured products were 0.2% lower in February 1999 than in January and nearly 5% lower than in February last year. Compared with January 1999, prices of products in the oil industry fell by most.

In addition to price falls, Statistics Netherlands also observed slight rises in February. Prices of products of the wood, cork and cane industry; the machine industry and the transport machinery industry were 0.1% higher.

### ***Slight price changes in manufacturing***

According to Statistics Netherlands, lower prices were observed in the oil industry, the chemical industry and the basic metal industry. Prices in the oil industry were 2.4% down on January, in the chemical industry they were 0.2% lower and in the basic metal industry 0.3% lower.

### ***Prices of raw materials also down***

Prices of raw materials and semi-manufactures used in the manufacturing industry were 0.4% lower in February than in January. Those bought on the domestic market were 0.1% lower, those imported 0.6% lower.

Compared with February last year prices of raw materials and semi-manufactures were 9.3% lower. Those purchased domestically were 8% cheaper, those imported 10.1% cheaper.

**For further information**, please contact P. Luyten, tel. (070) 337 47 16 or e-mail: [pltn@cbs.nl](mailto:pltn@cbs.nl).

Statistics Netherlands  
Press Office

P.O. Box 4000  
2270 JM Voorburg  
The Netherlands  
tel. +31 70 337 58 16  
fax +31 70 337 59 71  
e-mail:  
[persdienst@cbs.nl](mailto:persdienst@cbs.nl)

Statistics Netherlands  
is a department of  
the Ministry of  
Economic Affairs