



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Consumer price index April 1999

According to Statistics Netherlands figures the consumer price index in April was 0.2% higher than in March. Petrol and shoes were more expensive and fresh vegetables were cheaper. Compared with last year the consumer prices in April were 2.2% higher, this inflation figure is the same as in the first quarter.

Consumer prices up 0.2% in April

Between March and April consumer prices increased on average by 0.2%. Motor fuels and shoes in particular were more expensive. Furthermore there were price rises for holiday accommodation, package holidays and fruit. Fresh vegetables became a lot cheaper in April, but are still more expensive than last year. The price of potatoes also remained high in April.

Inflation 2.2 %

In April 1999 prices were on average 2.2% higher than in April 1998, continuing the inflation level of the first quarter of 1999. The harmonised consumer price index shows that the Dutch inflation figure is relatively high in an international context, but the difference with other European countries shrank slightly because inflation in other EU countries increased. The harmonised indexes are compiled to enable comparisons between European countries; they do not give a complete picture of the Dutch national index.

The most recent figures of the EU countries are those of March. In the 11 countries of the Eurozone the harmonised index was 1.0% higher than in the same period last year, in February it was 0.8% higher. In the Netherlands the harmonised index in both months was 2.0% higher than last year.

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According to the harmonised index the inflation of the Netherlands in April 1999 was slightly higher than in March 1999, namely 1.9%.

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Information is also available from our press office.
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