



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR99-157
23 June 1999
9.30 hrs

Consumer confidence remains stable

Consumers' confidence in the Dutch economy is about the same in June as it was in May. The willingness to buy also remains at the same level as last month. Consumer confidence started to decrease in August last year, reaching its lowest point in October. Following a slight recovery, consumer confidence now remains stable, according to figures from Statistics Netherlands.

Opinion on economic climate remains the same

Consumers' opinions on the economic climate in both the last twelve months and the next twelve months were about the same in June as in May.

In May consumers were slightly more optimistic about the next twelve months than in April: there were 13 per cent points more pessimists than optimists, compared with 21 per cent points more in April.

As far as the last twelve months are concerned, optimistic consumers are slightly in the majority. Since February the number of optimists is about 5 per cent points higher.

Willingness to buy remains high

Consumers are still willing to spend their money. Just as in May, on balance 13% more consumers are optimistic about their own financial situation, while 35% more think it is a good time to buy large items. The level of willingness to buy is about the same as in September last year, just before the turnaround in consumer confidence.

For further information, please contact G. Buiten, tel.+ 31 70 337 47 95; e-mail: gbten@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

Statistics Netherlands
is a department of
the Ministry of
Economic Affairs