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Consumer prices in June

Consumer prices fell by 0.4% between May and June 1999 according to figures from Statistics Netherlands. They were 2.3% higher than in June last year.

Clothing and shoes cheaper

The fall in the consumer price index between May and June was mainly caused by cheaper clothes and footwear. This is the time when end of season sales begin, reducing prices of clothes by nearly 6% and shoes by just over 3%. Fresh fruit and vegetables were also cheaper, while the price of fish went up.

Inflation stable at 2.3%

In June prices were on average 2.3% higher than in the same month last year, keeping inflation at the same level as last month. Inflation did not drop under 2.1% in the first half of 1999, at an average of 2.2%

Harmonised consumer price index

The harmonised consumer price index for the Netherlands compiled for the European Union was 2.1% higher in May 1999 than in May 1998, compared with 1.0% on average for the 11 countries of the Eurozone

The average harmonised price index in the Netherlands fell by 0.5% between May and June, and in June it was 2.1% higher than in June 1998. No June figures are yet available for other European countries.

Derived consumer price index

The derived consumer price index eliminates the effects of changes in indirect and consumer-related taxes. The derived index for all households for June 1999 was 1.8 % higher than one year ago.

For further information, please call Statistics Netherlands price statistics department on $+31\ 70\ 337\ 58\ 70$.

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