



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Higher turnover for cafés and snack bars

The hotel and restaurant sector increased overall turnover by 6% in the second quarter of 1999 compared with the same period last year. Statistics Netherlands figures show that cafés and snack bars realised a substantial rise. The traditional leader in the catering field - the hotel branch - continues to do well but lost some ground in the second quarter. Following years of substantial rises the turnover of hotels was lower than the average for the sector as a whole. Pubs and bars also did less well.

Cafés and snack bars increase takings

Cafés (including cafeterias, snack bars and fast-food restaurants) increased their takings by nearly 10% in the second quarter compared with the same period in 1998. If the price rise of 4.8% is taken into account, this means they increased their profits by 4.8%. Remarkably, small establishments also contributed to this growth, while in previous quarters larger companies (such as the main fast-food chains) were mainly responsible for the growth in this branch.

Average quarter for restaurants and hotels

The turnover of restaurants in the second quarter of 1999 rose by 6.2% compared with the same quarter last year. With prices having risen by 3.2% the real turnover comes down to 2.9%. The turnover of hotels, which include boarding houses and conference centres, rose less strongly than in previous quarters. While 1998 was a top year with an average increase in turnover of 11%, turnover only rose by 4.8% in the second quarter of this year.

Pubs and bars lag behind

The 3.9% increase in turnover of pubs and bars is lower than in the other branches of the catering sector. If we take the high price rises into account

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they even lose out slightly (-0.1%). April and May were particularly slow months for this branch.

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