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July clothing retail suffers from heat wave

In July 1999 the retail trade had a 4.4% higher turnover than July last year. This year's hot, sunny and dry July made consumers avoid clothing stores, however. The latest figures by Statistics Netherlands show a 1.5% drop in turnover, despite the favourable shopping day pattern, consisting of an extra Saturday. Super markets on the other hand seem to have profited from the heat wave (+5.6%). In total shoppers spent over 13 billion guilders in July; some 2000 guilders per household.

Limited growth in non-food retail

Summer has not been as good for the non-food sector. While the growth rate for turnover measured in June was more than 10%, it only came to 4.6% in July. Not only clothing saw some stagnation, consumer, electronics also did (-0.4%). Drugstores on the other hand did well with turnover up 14.1% on July last year.

Great month for super markets

But July was a great month for the super markets. Experience shows that hot weather comes with BBQ products, salads, ice cream and soft drinks which stimulate turnover. The smaller food stores did not do as well as the super markets, however. This is mainly due to a drop in turnover for the greengrocers. Markets and street trade did not do as well either, with a 4% loss in turnover compared to July 1998.

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Geldomzet detailhandel, wijzigingen in % ten opzichte van dezelfde periode vorig jaar

| | 1999 | 1999 | | | | |
|---|------|------|------------------|------------------|--------------|------|
| | juli | juni | 1e kwar- taal | 2e kwar- taal | jan- juli | jaar |
| | | | | | | |
| Detailhandel, totaal 1) | | | | | | |
| Geldomzet | 4,4 | 7,5 | 4,6 | 4,7 | 4,6 | 6,1 |
| Prijs | 1,0 | 1,7 | 2,2 | 1,7 | 1,8 | 1,9 |
| Hoeveelheid | 3,4 | 5,7 | 2,3 | 2,9 | 2,7 | 4,2 |
| geldomzet in: | | | | | | |
| Voedings- en genotmiddelenwinkels | 4,8 | 3,3 | -0,2 | 1,9 | 1,5 | 3,0 |
| w.o.: | | | | | | |
| Supermarkten | 5,6 | 3,0 | 0,0 | 2,1 | 1,7 | 4,2 |
| Non-foodwinkels | 4,6 | 10,4 | 8,4 | 6,8 | 7,1 | 9,1 |
| w.o.: | | | | | | |
| Drogisterijen | 14,1 | 11,2 | 7,7 | 9,6 | 9,6 | 10,1 |
| Bovenkledingwinkels | -1,5 | 10,8 | 8,5 | 5,2 | 5,4 | 7,2 |
| Textielsupermarkten | 0,2 | 9,9 | 8,0 | 6,7 | 6,2 | 0,7 |
| Winkels in woninginrichtings- artikelen 2) | 1,2 | 9,3 | 10,5 | 7,6 | 7,8 | 11,7 |
| Winkels in consumenten- electronica 3) | -0,4 | 3,0 | 9,4 | 4,7 | 5,8 | 16,4 |
| Doe-het-zelfwinkels | 4,8 | 11,6 | 5,9 | 9,6 | 7,4 | 8,1 |

Met uitzondering van de apotheken
Meubels, woningtextiel, verlichtingsartikelen en vloerbedekking
Wit-, bruingoed, geluidsdragers en computers