



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Manufacturing turnover remains steady***

The Dutch manufacturing industry realised 1% more turnover in the period July-August of this year than in the summer of last year. The increase in turnover was realised entirely on the domestic market. Sales in the Netherlands by the manufacturing industry rose by 2% while exports remained at the same level. Prices of manufactured products were on average just over 1% higher than in the same period last year, mainly because of the higher prices of oil products. In the other sectors of manufacturing, prices were lower than in July-August 1998. Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands show that the rise in turnover in the petroleum industry in particular had a positive effect on the overall turnover trend.

### ***Oil industry leaves its mark***

Prices of oil products have increased substantially since the beginning of the year, which has had an upward effect on turnover in the petrochemical and the rubber and synthetics industries. According to Statistics Netherlands, turnover in this branch was 11% higher in July-August of this year than in July-August last year, on account of both inland sales and exports.

### ***Turnover down in metal industry***

In terms of guilders, the largest decrease in turnover in the period July-August of this year compared with the same period last year was in the metal industry. Turnover was also down in the food industry. In both branches, exports fell by more than domestic sales.

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