



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Oil prices push up manufacturing turnover

Turnover in the Dutch manufacturing industry was 5% higher in October than in the same month last year. Nearly all of this growth was realised by the petrochemical industry, where higher prices had a positive effect on the growth. In the petroleum industry in particular sales prices have shot up in the course of the year. The turnover in the wood and construction materials sector also increased. In nearly all other sectors turnover fell.

Domestic turnover in the Dutch manufacturing industry was 6% higher in October than in the same month last year. Exports of manufactured products rose by 4% according to Statistics Netherlands. It should be taken into account that October 1999 had one working day fewer than October 1998.

More turnover in wood and construction materials

In addition to the petrochemical industry, the wood and construction materials sector also booked more turnover. In October 1999 sales in this sector were 9% higher than in the same month last year. Around 80% of turnover was realised on the domestic market. In October sales on the Dutch market rose by 11%, while exports grew by 5%, according to figures from Statistics Netherlands. In the first ten months of 1999 this branch sold 5% more than in the same period last year.

Lower turnover in October

Sales by the textile, clothing and leather industry were 5% down on the figure for October 1998. One of the reasons for this was the smaller number of working days in October 1999. Turnover in the food industry and in paper and publishing was also less than last year. In terms of money, the falls were largest in these two branches.

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

Negative effect of one less working day

Manufacturing turnover was negatively affected by October this year having one less working day than October last year. Statistics Netherlands estimates the negative effect of one working day less at 5%. This had a substantial effect in nearly all branches of industry.

For further information, please contact H.M.P. van der Bosch, tel. +31 45 570 63 33; e-mail: hbsh@cbs.nl.