



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR99-319
9 December 1999
9.30 hrs

Manufacturing production surges in October

The volume of manufacturing output was 3.8% higher in October than in the same month last year. Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands show further that after seasonal adjustment it was 1.5% higher than in September this year. The chemical industry in particular increased its output. Previously published figures from Statistics Netherlands' business sentiment survey further show that manufacturers expect a further increase in production in the next three months.

Production in the chemical industry shoots up

Output in the chemical industry has increased strongly since June of this year. In October the volume of production was as much as 10% higher than in October 1998. The increase was realised for both basic products and end products of the chemical sector. For the first ten months of this year production by the chemical industry was nearly 3% higher than in the same period last year. For the manufacturing industry as a whole, the increase in production was 0.5% in the same period.

Disparity between other sectors

In the wood and construction materials industry, too, production in the first ten months was up substantially on the same period last year. In paper and publishing, the food industry and rubber and synthetics, the increase in production in the first ten months of 1999 was also higher than the average for manufacturing as a whole. On the other hand, in textile and clothing, the metal industry and the petroleum industry, output in the first ten months was down on the same period last year. I

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