



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Inflation 2.2% in November

In November the Dutch inflation rate was 2.2%, according to the consumer price index of Statistics Netherlands. This is equal to the average rate of inflation for the first ten months of this year. Prices rose by an average 0.1% between October and November. Fresh vegetables and petrol were more expensive,

Inflation stable

Inflation in the Netherlands is measured as the increase in the consumer price index compared with the same month in the previous year. Between November 1998 and November of this year prices rose by an average 2.2%, 0.1 of a percent point more than in October, but the same as the average for the first ten months of this year. The slight rise in inflation compared with October was mainly caused by the increase in motor fuel prices.

Derived consumer price index

In the derived consumer price index of Statistics Netherlands the effect of changes in the rates of indirect and consumption-related taxes are eliminated from the price developments. The derived index in November was 0.1% higher than in October and 1.7% higher than in November last year. About one half of a percent point of the total inflation rate of 2.2% can be attributed to indirect and consumption-related taxes.

Prices slightly up between October and November

On average, consumer prices rose by 0.1% between October and November. The price of motor fuels went up as a consequence of higher prices on the international oil market. Petrol cost 12% more in November than in the same month last year, and diesel

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was 21% more expensive. Fresh vegetables were also a lot more expensive, but that is normal for this time of year. Margarine and soft drinks also cost more. Potatoes, fresh fruit, fish and holiday accommodation, on the other hand, were all cheaper.

Harmonised consumer price index

In addition to the national consumer price index, since March 1987 Statistics Netherlands also compiles a so-called harmonised consumer price index for the European Union (EU). The harmonised index is used to compare inflation between countries of the EU, but is less accurate for national developments.

In October average inflation for the 15 countries of the EU was 1.3%. In the 11 countries of the Eurozone it was 1.4% on average. In October the Dutch rate according to the harmonised index was 1.8%.

In November the Dutch rate according to the harmonised index rose to 2.0%. No figures for November are available for the other EU countries.

Next publication

The publication of inflation figures on December and the year figures for 1999 will be released on 14 January 2000.

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