



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Manufacturing turnover shoots up in November

Turnover in the manufacturing industry rose considerably in November 1999. Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands show that it was 14% higher than in November 1998. A large part of this increase was caused by higher prices and an extra working day. Turnover rose particularly strongly in the petrochemical industries, but was up across all other sectors too.

The increase was equally strong on the domestic and the export market, according to Statistics Netherlands.

Higher prices and an extra working day push prices up

The turnover of the Dutch manufacturing industry was influenced positively by two factors in November last year: product prices were higher and November 1999 had one working day more than November 1998. The prices were just over 6% higher in November 1999 than one year previously; and as Statistics Netherlands puts the effect of one extra working day at 5%, just over three-quarters of the increase in turnover can be attributed to these two factors.

Slight improvement in 1999

Statistics Netherlands calculates that manufacturing turnover for the year 1999 was 2% higher than in 1998. These calculations are partly based on provisional figures for the last months of 1999. Turnover on the Dutch market rose by 3%, that on the export market by 1%.

Although 1999 began with substantial monthly falls in turnover, it would seem that sales by the manufacturing industry in 1999 will exceed the record turnover in 1998. The growth in turnover in the second half of 1999 more than compensated the

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decreases in the first half of the year. The steady increase in prices in the course of 1999 were an important factor in the turnover growth.

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