



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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3.9% growth rate in November consumption

The volume of household consumption in the Netherlands in November 1999 was up 3.9% on November 1998. During the year 1999 consumer growth slowed down somewhat. The average growth rate for the first eleven months of 1999 in consumer expenditure was 3.6%. This is somewhat less than the high growth rate observed in 1998.

Food in November: relatively great increase

The level of expenditure on food, beverages, and tobacco in November 1999 was up 4.2% on November 1998. This is a relatively large increase in this consumption category. This difference can largely be explained by a difference in the shopping day patterns of the two years. November 1999 had a Tuesday more and a Sunday less than November 1998.

The long-term picture is a different one: Statistics Netherlands observed a slight drop in volume in the first eleven months of 1999 in the expenditure on food, beverages, and tobacco.

Durable goods: growth rate 6.8%

The volume of expenditure on durable consumer goods in November 1999 was up 6.8% on November 1998.

The growth rate in the expenditure on durable goods fell rapidly after the first six months of 1999. After a 10.5% growth rate in the first quarter and an 8.2% growth rate in the second, there was a modest 4.1% increase in the third quarter. The growth rate for October and November together is also in that range.

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Other goods: limited growth

The level of expenditure on other goods, including energy and fuel, was up 1.3% on November 1998. The growth rate was slow due to a reduction in energy consumption.

Services: stable growth

The volume of expenditure on services in November was up 3.6% on November 1998. The growth rate for the first eleven months of 1999 was 3.5%. There was a high volume growth during this period in transport and communications and in financial and business services.

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Domestic consumption, percentage changes on the previous year

1999	Q2	Q3	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Jan.- Nov.
VOLUME CHANGES						
Food/ Voedings- en genotmiddelen	0.0	1.9	2.9	-4.8	4.2	-0.3
Durables/ Duurzame goederen	8.2	4.1	4.5	2.8	6.8	7.0
Other goods/Overige goederen	3.3	3.7	1.9	0.5	1.3	3.0
Services/ Diensten	3.4	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5
Individual domestic consumption/ Indi- viduele consumptie binnenland	3.8	3.4	3.6	2.0	3.9	3.6
Individual national consumption/ Indi- viduele consumptie nationaal	4.1	3.8	3.9	2.3	4.2	3.9
VALUE CHANGES						
Food/Voedings- en genotmiddelen	2.0	3.4	4.7	-3.5	5.2	1.6
Durables/Duurzame goederen	9.0	5.6	5.1	2.4	6.4	7.6
Other goods/ Overige goederen	5.4	7.6	6.0	4.5	6.0	5.7
Services/Diensten	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.9	6.9	6.3
Individual domestic consump- tion/Individuele consumptie binnen- land	6.2	5.9	6.0	4.4	6.5	5.9
Individual national consumption/ Indi- viduele consumptie nationaal	6.3	6.2	6.3	4.7	6.8	6.1

Source/Bron: Statistics Netherlands/CBS