



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Profits up for AEX quoted companies

Companies listed on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange (AEX) made 24.5 billion euros in net profits in 1999, 2.8 billion euros (13%) more than in 1998. There are large differences between the sectors of industry according to figures from Statistics Netherlands. Financial institutions and the services sector did particularly well in 1999. The turnover of all listed companies together was 405 billion euros, 15% up on 1998.

Financial institutions dominate the picture

The net profits of financial institutions have been increasing constantly since 1990. In 1999 they booked profits of 9.7 billion euros, 3.4 billion more than in 1998. The services sector, too, did well in 1999: profits rocketed by 130%, to 0.8 billion euros.

For the other four sectors, manufacturing, trade, and transport and communication profits have either stagnated or fallen. In the construction industry profits rose by 1% to 0.5 billion euros. In manufacturing there was a 3% fall to 11.3 billion euros. Profits for the trade sector dropped by 20% to 1.5 billion euros. The worst results were for the transport and communication sector, where profits were down 36% at 0.6 billion euros, although this does not include the annual figures for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

Large differences within manufacturing

With net profits of 11.3 billion euros, the manufacturing industry is an important sector for the stock market. Profits in this sector varied enormously between the branches of manufacturing in 1999. The chemical sector netted 5.5 billion euros, more than triple the disappointing results in 1998.

There were negative results for two branches. In publishing profits fell by 48 to 0.6 billion euros. Companies making machinery and electronics saw profits cut by 67% to 2.1 billion euros, although it should be taken into account that a number of individual companies are very dominant in this sector on the stock market.

Losses for some companies

Profits increased in 1999 for seven out of ten companies listed on the AEX. For 48 companies profits for 1999 were less than in the preceding year. In 1999 twelve companies suffered losses totalling 1.4

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Statistics Netherlands
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billion euros. In 1998, 17 companies closed in the red, with losses of 0.7 billion euros.

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