



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR00-126
31-5-2000
9:30 AM

Turnover industry up in April

Turnover in the manufacturing industry was up 9% in April on April last year. This is despite the fact that April 2000 had a working day less than April 1999. The rise in turnover is mainly caused by higher selling prices. Preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands show that turnover of the market abroad increased by 12%. This is twice the 6% increase that came about on the domestic market. About three quarters of the total increase in turnover was produced in the oil and chemical industry, specifically because of much higher selling prices.

The influences of a working day less and higher selling prices

Two factors influenced turnover, albeit in opposite directions. One is that April 2000 had a working day less than April 1999. Statistics Netherlands estimates that the negative influence of this comes at about 5%. The positive influence of higher selling prices, however, was much greater. Compared to April last year the selling prices of Dutch manufactured goods were up by 11% on average.

As a consequence of developments on the world market the prices of oil and oil products rose continuously between March 1999 and March 2000. In April 2000 there is a slight price dip compared to March 2000. However, the prices of oil and oil products are up by more than 80% on a year ago.

Turnover growing fast in oil and chemical industry

The sales of the petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastics Industry were up by more than a quarter on April a year ago. The higher turnover was across the board, except for the food, beverages and tobacco industry and the wood and wood processing industry did turnover remain at almost the same level as in April last year.

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