



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Consumption up by 2.8% in April***

The volume of domestic consumption by individuals in April was up 2.8% on April a year ago. The increase not as high as in previous months according to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands. On average the monthly increase in January through April was 3.9%. In 1998 and 1999 the growth rate likewise stayed around 4%.

### ***Modest increase in food expenditure***

Expenditure on food, beverages and tobacco increased by 0.5% in April. The increase is entirely in beverages and tobacco. There was a slight drop in expenditure on food.

### ***Fewer durable goods bought***

The growth rate in the expenditure on durable goods fell somewhat. The volume of expenditure on durables was up 2.0% on April last year. There was a substantial drop in the number of new cars bought. Despite the fact that the growth rate was lower in April, expenditure on durables were substantially higher in the first 4 months of the year 2000 than in the same period of 1999. The increase came to 6.0% for this period.

### ***Expenditure on other goods up by 3.2%***

The volume of expenditure on other goods increased by 3.2% in April. This consumption category consists of energy, fuel and non-durable goods such as flowers, plants, magazines, newspapers, medicines, make up and cleaning products.

### ***Services growing consistently***

Expenditure on services is the largest consumption category. Services are growing consistently. The volume in April was up 3.4% than in April 1999. The growth rate for the first four months stands at 3.6%. This figure is about the same as the annual growth rate during the past three years.

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**Domestic individual consumption/  
Ontwikkeling van de individuele consumptie (binnenlands)**  
Percentage changes on the same period the previous year  
Procentuele mutaties t.o.v. dezelfde periode een jaar eerder

	1999 Year Jaar	2000 Q1/ Kw1	2000 Feb.	2000 Mrt.	2000 Apr.	2000 Jan- Apr.
<b>VOLUME CHANGES VOLUMEMUTATIES</b>						
Food/Voedings- en genotmid- delen	0.4	3.3	4.9	8.2	0.5	2.6
Durables/Duurzame goederen	6.7	7.5	12.6	5.5	2.0	6.0
Other goods/Overige goederen	3.2	3.5	2.9	4.0	3.2	3.4
Services/Diensten	3.5	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.4	3.6
<b>Individual domestic con- sumption/ Individuele consumptie bin- nenland</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Individual national consump- tion/ Individuele consumptie na- tionaal	3.9	4.7	5.3	5.7	3.7	4.4
<b>VALUE CHANGES/ WAARDEMUTATIES</b>						
Food/Voedings- en genotmid- delen	2.2	3.2	4.6	7.7	0.6	2.5
Durables/Duurzame goederen	7.5	7.0	12.0	5.1	1.6	5.6
Other goods/Overige goederen	6.0	10.4	9.9	11.6	9.2	10.1
Services/Diensten	6.3	6.8	6.6	7.1	6.5	6.7
<b>Individual domestic con- sumption/Individuele con- sumptie binnenland</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Individual national consump- tion/ Individuele consumptie na- tionaal	6.1	7.3	7.9	8.4	6.3	7.0

**Bron: CBS**