



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Environmental cost industry over 4 billion guilders

The environmental costs of enterprises in Dutch industry increased in 1999 to 4.2 billion guilders (1.9 billion Euro). These costs have gone up since 1997 under the influence of major investments in environmental protection measures in the preceding years. In 1999 Dutch industry invested almost 1 billion guilders (430 million Euro) in the environment, slightly less than in 1998. The preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands show that the chemical industry invested most in the environment in 1999. Other major investors were the basic metal and the food industry.

Environmental costs up substantially

The environmental costs in the period 1997-1999 went up by more than 6% a year, reaching 4.2 billion guilders in 1999. The interest payments, depreciation and current costs related to environmental investments in the past skyrocketed. In 1999 the interest payments and depreciation came to 1.5 billion guilders while some 960 million guilders was spent on current costs, such as maintenance.

Environmental investments down

In 1999 environmental investments reached 950 million guilders, which is down slightly on the average investment of 1.2 billion guilders a year in the period 1993-1997.

The share of environmental investments in the total investment picture was 4% in 1999. In the period 1993-1997 the average share was 6%. This drop is caused by the lower investment level of companies in the energy, mining and quarrying sectors in 1998 and 1999. No major projects were completed in these branches of industry, which are often good for large industrial investments.

Chemical industry is largest investor

In 1999 the chemical industry was the biggest environmental investor with more than 300 million guilders in investments. Next came the base metal industry with 150 million and the food industry with 120 million guilders.

Statistics Netherlands
Press Office

P.O. Box 4000
2270 JM Voorburg
The Netherlands
tel. +31 70 337 58 16
fax +31 70 337 59 71
e-mail:
persdienst@cbs.nl

Statistics Netherlands
is a department of
the Ministry of
Economic Affairs

Biggest investments in air and water quality

In 1999 the biggest amount of 390 million guilders, was spent of fighting air pollution. 210 million was spent on improving water quality. Expenditure on measures to fight pollution caused by waste was 150 million guilders. Furthermore enterprises spent 135 million guilders on soil protection in 1999 and almost 65 million guilders on reducing noise nuisance.

For further information please contact

J.H. van Riessen, tel. (070) 337 42 38.

Environmental investments and environmental costs of Duct industry
(excl. Construction)

Milieu-investeringen en milieulasten in de nijverheid (excl. Bouwnijverheid) 1)

YEAR Environmental investments

Net environmental costs

Jaar	Milieu-investeringen					Netto milieulasten	
	Total/ Totaal	Water	Air/ Lucht	Other/ Overig (bodem, geluid, afval en landschap)	% of total invest- ments/ Milieu- investe- ringen in % van totale investe- ringen	Total/ Totaal	Change on preceding year/ Groei t.o.v. voorgaand jaar
	<i>mln gld</i>				%	<i>mln gld</i>	%
1985	585	155	327	104	3.2	1 474	6.7
1990	1 227	604	465	160	5.9	2 612	23.8
1991	808	247	415	146	4.0	3 028	15.9
1992	821	209	395	217	4.2	3 105	2.5
1993	1 004	231	521	253	5.2	2 983	-3.9
1994	1 586	252	1 065	268	8.0	3 360	12.6
1995	921	234	337	350	4.6	3 405	1.3
1996	1 250	188	507	556	5.3	3 464	1.7
1997	1 700	221	959	520	6.7	3 691	6.6
1998	1 055	143	611	301	4.7	3 982	7.9
1999 *	950	210	390	350	4.0	4 200	5.0

1) Bedrijven met 20 of meer werknemers

* = voorlopig cijfer

Bron: CBS