



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Consumer confidence remains high

Statistics Netherlands' consumer confidence indicator for August is 26, showing that consumers are just as confident in the economy this month as they were in July. They are also nearly as optimistic about the economic climate as last month, and still willing to spend their money. After adjustment for seasonal effects, the confidence indicator is slightly down on the beginning of the year.

Seasonal effects flatter indicator

Consumer confidence has been fairly stable at a high level all year. Consumers are usually more pessimistic than average at the start of the year, and extra optimistic in the summer months. If these seasonal effects are taken into account consumer confidence is slightly lower in July and August than in the first six months of 2000.

Opinion on economic climate unchanged

Consumer opinion on the economic climate in the Netherlands is again positive in August, both for the past as well the next twelve months. After adjustment for seasonal effects these opinions have also become less positive in the course of this year.

Willingness to buy remains high

Consumers' willingness to buy also continues its high level in August. This has been relatively stable and high this year, even when seasonal effects are taken into account.

The high indicator for willingness to buy is apparent from ongoing consumers' sentiments that it is a good time to buy large items such as computers and televisions.

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