



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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More orders for manufacturing industry

Manufacturers' order books were fuller in July than in June. The main reason for this was a number of very large incidental orders in the metal and electrical engineering sectors. Statistics Netherlands' business sentiment survey further shows that activity rates and received orders remained high in July for this time of year. Producer confidence, the sentiment indicator for manufacturing companies, was 6.8 in July.

Capital goods sector benefits from incidental orders

The number of orders received in the capital goods sector remained almost unchanged in July. The incidental orders in the metal industry, expressed in terms of months of work, pushed up the order position in this sector. Remarkably, though, manufacturers in this sector are less satisfied with the orders received than in June. The similarly almost unchanged number of orders received by manufacturers of consumer goods and semi-manufactures had little effect on the July order books. In these two sectors the high level of satisfaction with received orders hardly changed.

Companies in all sectors of the manufacturing industry are satisfied with their July order books.

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Producer confidence slightly up

Producer confidence was 0.1 point higher in July at 6.8. The component indicator on expected activity was behind the slight increase. Producer confidence has retained its high level since the second half of 1999.

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