



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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International trade continues to grow

In August this year the value of Dutch international trade was clearly up on August last year. The latest trade figures by Statistics Netherlands show that imports increased by a quarter on August 1999, reaching 37 billion guilders (17 billion euro). Exports were up 30% on a year ago and were valued at 40 billion guilders. These are bigger average year-on-year increases than the ones observed in the first seven months of this year. However, the difference in working days is responsible for part of the difference.

Imports and exports up

The value of Dutch international trade increased substantially, as it did in the previous months. The Netherlands imported 37 billion guilders worth in August 2000, up 25% on August last year. The export value increased by 30% reaching a value of 40 billion. The average increase in the first seven months of this year was 20% for imports and 22% for exports.

Although the average import/export increases were higher in August, they can be partly attributed to the difference in the number of working days.

The trade balance for the first 8 months of 2000 was positive, + 19 billion guilders.

Trade with the European Union

The Netherlands imported 20 billion worth in guilders in August 2000 from the other EU member states. This is up 20% on August 1999. In the first seven months of 2000 imports from the EU increased by 14% on August 1999. The fastest growing import partners were Finland and Denmark.

Export to EU-countries in August was up 28% on a year ago: 31 billion guilders. In the first seven months of 2000 imports rose by 21% on August 1999. Exports to Italy increased most.

The trade balance with the other EU-member states was positive for the first 8 months of 2000, namely 81 billion guilders.

Trade with non-EU countries

In August 2000 the Netherlands imported 17 billion guilders worth of goods from countries outside the European Union. This is 31% higher than in August 1999. In the first seven months of 2000 non-EU imports

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

increased by 29%, with Russia and Saudi-Arabia showing the highest growth rates.

Exports to non-EU countries stood at 9 billion in August up 37% on a year ago. In the first seven months of 2000 non-EU imports increased by 25%. The increase in exports to Turkey was significant.

The trade balance with non-EU countries was negative for the first 8 months of the year: - 62 billion guilders

N. Philippens, tel. (045) 570 75 65.

Imports/exports, trade balance in billions of guilders

In- en uitvoer, totalen 1996-2000 (in GULDERS)

	Invoer	Uitvoer	Handels-overschot
	mld. gld.		
1996	308,4	338,8	30,5
1997	346,9	377,8	30,8
1998	371,2	398,3	27,1
1999	393,8	415,6	21,8
Januari	29,1	30,4	1,4
Februari	29,3	30,6	1,2
Maart	35,1	37,7	2,5
April	31,3	32,8	1,4
Mei	30,9	31,9	1,1
Juni	33,5	35,6	2,1
Juli	31,8	32,7	0,9
Augustus	29,7	30,9	1,2
September	35,3	37,4	2,2
Oktober	34,5	37,4	2,9
November	36,6	39,2	2,5
December	36,7	39,1	2,4
2000*			
Januari	33,6	35,6	2,0
Februari	36,7	39,0	2,3
Maart	40,5	43,7	3,2
April	36,3	38,1	1,7
Mei	40,5	43,4	2,8
Juni	39,4	41,5	2,1
Juli*	36,6	38,5	1,9
Augustus*	37,0	40,2	3,2

* preliminary figures/Voorlopige cijfers

Source/Bron: Statistics Netherlands/CBS

Imports/exports trade balance
In- en uitvoer, totalen 1996-2000 (in billion EURO'S)

	Invoer	Uitvoer	Handels- overschot
	mld. Euro		
1996	139,9	153,8	13,8
1997	157,4	171,4	14,0
1998	168,4	180,7	12,3
1999	178,7	188,6	9,9
Januari	13,2	13,8	0,6
Februari	13,3	13,9	0,6
Maart	15,9	17,1	1,2
April	14,2	14,9	0,6
Mei	14,0	14,5	0,5
Juni	15,2	16,2	0,9
Juli	14,4	14,8	0,4
Augustus	13,5	14,0	0,5
September	16,0	17,0	1,0
Oktober	15,6	17,0	1,3
November	16,6	17,8	1,2
December	16,7	17,7	1,1
2000*			
Januari	15,3	16,2	0,9
Februari	16,7	17,7	1,1
Maart	18,4	19,8	1,5
April	16,5	17,3	0,8
Mei	18,4	19,7	1,3
Juni	17,9	18,8	1,0
Juli*	16,6	17,5	0,9
Augustus*	16,8	18,2	1,5

* preliminary figures/Voorlopige cijfers

Source/Bron: Statistics Netherlands/CBS