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## Different growth rates within catering sector

Hotels, restaurants and bars realised 5% more turnover in the third quarter of this year than in the same quarter last year. Figures from Statistics Netherlands show that hotels in particular contributed to this growth, with an 8% increase in turnover. Trade in pubs and bars grew less strongly, by just over 2%, among other things because of the disappointing July weather.

## Hotels and restaurants above average

Turnover in the hotel sector, which includes boarding houses and conference centres, was 78% higher in the third quarter than in the same period last year. August in particular was a good month for the hotel trade.

Following a disappointing second quarter, turnover in the restaurant sector was 6.3% higher in the third quarter than in the same period last year. After adjustment for price increases, however, this falls back to 3.7%.

## July curbs growth for bars and cafés

The turnover of cafés, including snack bars, lunch rooms and fast-food restaurants, grew less vigorously than that of hotels and restaurants in the third quarter, mainly because of the wet July weather. A recovery in August and September pushed up the increase in snack bar sales in the third quarter to 4.2%, although when corrected for price rises this comes to only 0.5%.

The increase in pub trade, too, lagged behind other sectors in the industry. In the third quarter of 2000 trade grew by only 2.2%, and even fell by 1% after correction for price effects.

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