



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Strong retail growth in third quarter

Retail turnover was 5.3% higher in the third quarter compared with the third quarter last year. New figures from Statistics Netherlands show that non-food shops increased sales by nearly 7% in the third quarter, food shops by 2.2%.

Dutch consumers spent a total of 18 billion euros in shops in the third quarter, the equivalent of 2,650 euros per household. Almost two thirds of this was spent in non-food shops, including chemists and clothes shops.

Consumer electronics popular with shoppers

The strongest increase in turnover in the non-food sector in the third quarter was for the branch selling consumer electronics. Compared with the same quarter last year, turnover was 11% higher for these outlets. Turnover in this branch was up in the first two quarters of this year too.

Chemists (+7.6%) and clothes shops (+8.5%) also did better than average in the third quarter. Shops selling textiles (+4.3%) and home furnishings (+4%) achieved slightly under average, while those selling household appliances realised a lower turnover than in the third quarter of 1999 (-2.4%).

Supermarket takings up in third quarter

Supermarkets sold 2.4% more in the third quarter than in the same period last year, about the same growth rate as in the second quarter. The increase in turnover of specialist food shops like greengrocers, butchers and off licences was lower than that of supermarkets.

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