



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Manufacturing output down in October

The level of production by the manufacturing industry was 0.3% down in October on the same month last year, although it should be taken into account that it was relatively high in October 1999. Compared with September 2000, manufacturing output was 3% lower in October after seasonal adjustment. According to Statistics Netherlands it would be premature to conclude on the basis of figures for October alone that manufacturing production is declining.

Output down in all sectors

After seasonal adjustment, production by the manufacturing industry was lower in October than in September across all sectors of industry. Output was 2.5% down in the food and metal industries. Much larger falls were reported in the other sectors, most substantially in the textile and clothing branch.

Growth rates slowing down

Manufacturing production was 2.8% higher in the first ten months of this year than in the same period last year. In the first nine months output was still 3% higher than in the first nine months of last year. In the first ten months of this year production was higher in all sectors of industry. The largest increase, over 4%, was reported in the petrochemical and rubber industry. Output in the metal industry rose by 3%, and production levels in most other sectors were up 2% in the first ten months of 2000. The textile and clothing and leather industries lagged behind somewhat with 1% growth in this period.

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