

PR01-055 12 March 2001 9.30 hrs

Manufacturing turnover surges in January

Turnover in the manufacturing industry rose considerably in January 2001. Sales by manufacturers were up 11% on January 2000. Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands show that exports by the industry were 12% higher than last year, while sales of manufactured products in the Netherlands rose by 10%. The high growth rates can be completely accounted for by higher selling prices and an extra working day.

The petrochemical industry accounted for about one third of the total increase in turnover, but turnover increased in all other sectors of manufacturing too.

Effect of extra working days and higher prices

Two factors had a substantial positive effect on Dutch manufacturing turnover in January: higher selling prices and an extra working day in January 2001. Selling prices of manufactured products were on average 7% higher than in January 2000. The oil industry accounts for a quarter of this increase. Provisional calculations by Statistics Netherlands put the positive effect of one extra working day in January this year at over 4%.

Turnover up in all sectors

Sales by the petro-chemical industry were nearly 14% higher than in January 2000. The food, drink and tobacco industry also increased sales to the same extent. The textile, clothing and leather industry increased turnover by 11%, while in paper and publishing sales grew by 10%. Manufacturers of wood products and construction materials, and of metal products and engineering and transport equipment realised 7% more turnover than in January last year, according to Statistics Netherlands.

For further information, please contact H. van der Bosch, tel. +31 45 570 63 33; e-mail: hbsh@cbs.nl, or the press office on +31 70 337 58 16

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