



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR01-071
30 March 2001
9.30 hrs

Manufacturers' selling prices up

Following three months of decreases, the prices of Dutch manufactured products rose again in February. Prices were 0.7% higher than in January. Figures from Statistics Netherlands show that this is mainly the result of price increases for food and oil products. Prices of products for the export markets showed relatively strong price increases (+1.2%). Compared with February 2000 prices of Dutch manufactured products were 6.1% higher on average in February this year.

Prices up in most sectors

Prices increases were reported in most sectors of manufacturing in February 2001, but particularly in the food and petro-chemical industries. In the food industry prices of pork rose strongly, while beef products became a lot cheaper. Foot-and-mouth disease reached the Netherlands in March and has therefore not yet had an effect on the figures. Price decreases were reported in the sectors manufacturing transport equipment, and paper and cardboard.

Higher oil-product prices dominate overall figure

The prices of oil products rose by 3.5% in February from their January levels. The prices of these products had fallen in the three previous months. Compared with February last year, prices were 11.1% higher. If the developments in the oil industry are left out of consideration, the price increase for manufactured products in February compared with January would be only 0.4% instead of 0.7%; and compared with February last year, the increase would be 5.0% instead of 6.1%

Higher prices for intermediate consumption too

The prices of raw materials and semi-manufactured products used by the manufacturing industry were 1.7% higher in February than in January. Imported raw materials in particular cost more (+2.9%). Prices of raw materials and semi-manufactures purchased on the domestic market remained nearly unchanged (+0.1%). Compared with February last year, prices of intermediate consumption by the manufacturing industry were 5.8% higher:

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

For further information, please contact Hans Pijpers, tel. +31 70 337 47 16; e-mail: jppe@cbs.nl.