



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Manufacturing turnover up slightly

The turnover of the Dutch manufacturing industry was 2% higher in February 2001 than in February last year. Although this year February had one working day fewer than in 2000, the prices of Dutch manufactured products were on average just over 6% higher.

Provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands further show that exports of manufactured products rose by 3%. Sales on the domestic market were 1% up.

The highest turnover growth rates were in the petrochemical and synthetics industries.

Effect of one less working day and higher prices

Two factors had an important effect on turnover in February 2001: February this year had one working day fewer than the same month last year. Statistics Netherlands calculates the negative effect of this to be just over 3%. However, the positive effect of the higher prices is greater. Selling prices of manufactured products were on average 6% higher than in February last year.

Largest turnover growth in chemical industry

The largest increases in manufacturing turnover were realised in the petrochemical and synthetics industries. Within this sector, the chemical industry in particular booked more turnover this February than last year. The growth in turnover in the chemical industry accounted for three-quarters of the total increase in manufacturing turnover in February. This is mainly a consequence of the 9% higher prices of products from this sector. Nearly all sectors of manufacturing booked a higher turnover in February than in the same month last year. However, turnover was slightly lower in the metal industry, the engineering and transport equipment sector, and the wood and construction materials industry.

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