



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Slight increase in retail***

According to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands there was a 2.4% turnover increase in retail from February 2001 on February a year ago. The increase in turnover came with a 4.1% price hike. This means that in terms of volume, retail trade went down by 1.6%. The pattern of shopping days had a negative effect. There was one shopping day less in February of this year than in February last year.

Consumers did 12.3 billion guilders worth of shopping in February (5.6 billion euro), spending slightly over 1800 guilders (825 euro) per household.

### ***Non-food has 0.6% more turnover***

Non-food stores had 0.6% more turnover than in February 2000. There is a dual tendency here, with an increase in turnover in stores for personal care products, such as drugstores and clothes shops. And a turnover decrease in textile supermarkets, furniture and furnishings, consumer electronics and household appliances. The latter has gone through a period of decreasing turnover.

### ***Food up 4% in February***

The February turnover in the food sector in retail was up 4% on February a year ago. The supermarkets were the largest branch in the food sector. Their turnover increased by 4.%. The specialised food shops, such as butchers and greengrocers, did not do as well. Their growth rate was 2.7%. The specialist stores have had lower growth rates than super markets for years. For instance, turnover in super markets came out 17% higher in the last 5 years, while turnover in the specialised stores stayed about the same during that period.

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