



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Foot and mouth disease slows down industrial production***

Dutch industrial production in April 2001 was up 0.2% on April 2000, according to the most recent preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands. This growth rate falls far short of the 1.8% first quarter production growth rate. According to Statistics Netherlands the outbreak of foot and mouth disease is the main cause of the drop in production in the food, beverages and tobacco industry.

### ***Diverse developments***

Developments in production vary from branch to branch. In some production went down, such as in the food, beverages and tobacco industry where production fell by 4%. This was mainly caused by the outbreak of foot and mouth disease, which slashed production in slaughterhouses. If the results of the food, beverages and tobacco industry are not taken into account Dutch industrial production increased by 1% in April. The increase in the metal industry and in oil, chemicals and rubber was more than 3% in April 2001 on April last year.

### ***Production in April lower than in March***

In order to be able to understand short-term developments the production figures are corrected for seasonal influences. The seasonally corrected figures show that industrial production in April was down 1% on March. Despite this, the seasonally corrected production figures are still higher than the average production level observed during the first three months of this year. However, first quarter production was down due to incidental low production figures in January according to Statistics Netherlands. This was probably due to the higher VAT rate introduced in January 2001.

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**Table 1: Production volume index (1995=100), average daily production**

Period	Percentage changes on the same period the year before			
	2000	2001	2000	2001
Jan	102.1	103.0	-2.3	0.9
Feb	111.4	114.2	5.2	2.5
Mar	114.6	116.7	3.6	1.8
April	118.7	118.9	5.0	0.2
May	116.0		1.5	
Jun	121.2		6.3	
Jul	104.0		1.9	
Aug	98.7		5.3	
Sep	119.1		4.4	
Oct	119.0		1.1	
Nov	121.2		2.5	
Dec	118.8		8.5	
Q1	109.4	111.3	2.2	1.8
Q2	118.6		4.3	
Q3	107.3		3.8	
Q4	119.6		3.9	
Year	113.8		3.6	

**Source, Statistics Netherlands**

*Adjusted to the National Accounts figures 1999*

**Table 3: Volume index for industrial production (1995=100).  
Seasonally corrected average daily production**

Period	Percentage changes on the previous period			
	2000	2001	2000	2001
Jan	108.1	109.2	-3.2	-10.0
Feb	112.2	115.0	3.7	5.3
Mar	112.7	114.8	0.5	-0.1
Apr	113.3	113.7	0.5	-1.0
May	112.1		-1.1	
Jun	115.1		2.6	
Jul	113.9		-1.0	
Aug	113.6		-0.2	
Sep	114.9		1.1	
Oct	112.7		-1.9	
Nov	114.7		1.7	
Dec	121.3		5.8	
Q1	111.0	113.0	-0.6	-2.8
Q2	113.5		2.3	
Q3	114.1		0.6	
Q4	116.3		1.8	
Year	113.8		3.6	

**Source, Statistics Netherlands**

**Adjusted to the National Accounts figures 1999**