



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Producers' confidence down slightly***

Producers' confidence, the sentiment indicator for manufacturing companies, was slightly lower in May, continuing the downward trend since October 2000. The decrease in May is on the same level as that in April, and smaller than that in the preceding months. Statistics Netherlands' business sentiment survey for May further shows that the Dutch manufacturing industry received slightly more orders than in April.

### ***More orders for manufacturing industry***

Manufacturers received slightly more orders in May than in April. The increased demand from within the Netherlands was largely cancelled by the fall in orders from overseas. As the slight rise in orders received was accompanied by an increase in activity, the work in hand remained at the same level as in the previous month.

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