



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Producer confidence down further***

Producer confidence fell further in June, for the ninth month in a row. The drop in June was substantially bigger than in the previous two months. The survey conducted by Statistics Netherlands further shows that industrial entrepreneurs do not expect a recovery of activity in the next quarter. Moreover they report increasing production problems due to a lack of demand.

### ***Lowest level in seven years***

Producer confidence, the mood indicator of Dutch industry, stands at – 2.3 in June, the lowest value since February 1994. The indicator reached its record high of 8.4 in September 2000. From October onwards the mood indicator has been falling continuously.

The work in store in Dutch industry has been falling as well since early this year, and producers were also negative about the level of new orders received. The index for order position, expressing the work in store, fell by 1.4 points in June to 96,1 (June 2000=100). However producers feel there is no deterioration of the competitive position of Dutch industry.

### ***Insufficient demand hampers production***

Of all industrial enterprises, 11% reported that insufficient demand hampered their production, a slight increase in number on December 2000. Another 6% was hampered by a shortage of personnel in June, slightly less than the 9% reporting this problem in December 2000. The degree of capacity use of machinery and equipment was 84.8% in June, about the same level as in the previous two quarters.

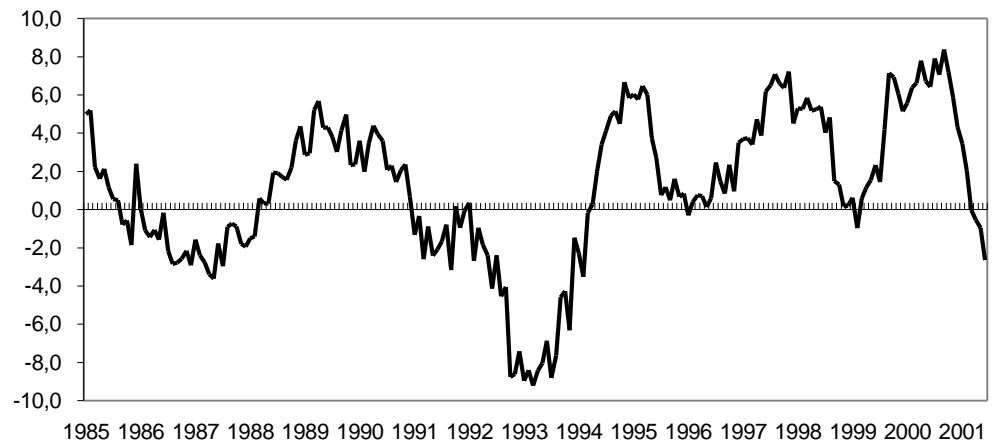
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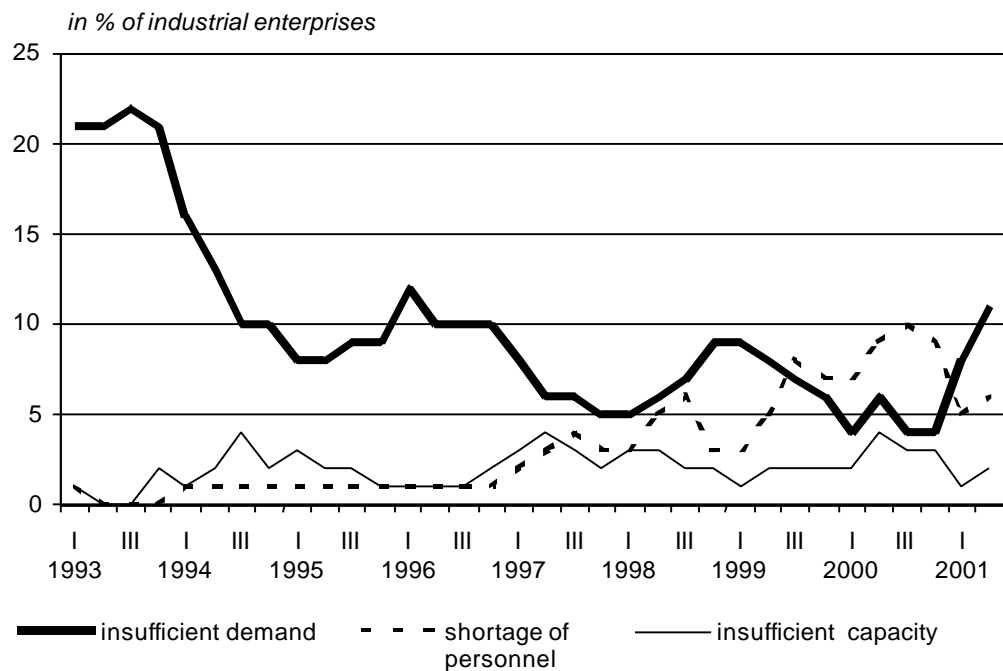
## Producer confidence



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Ma	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Yea
1999	0,6	-1,0	0,6	1,2	1,5	2,3	1,4	4,2	7,1	6,9	6,1	5,2	3,0
2000	5,6	6,4	6,6	7,8	6,7	6,4	7,9	7,1	8,4	7,2	5,9	4,3	6,7
2001	3,5	2,0	0,0	-0,5	-0,9	-2,3							

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**

## Enterprises hampered in production



Year	Quarter	Insufficient demand	Shortage of personnel	Insufficient capacity
		%		
1997	1	8	2	3
	2	6	3	4
	3	6	4	3
	4	5	3	2
1998	1	5	3	3
	2	6	5	3
	3	7	6	2
	4	9	3	2
1999	1	9	3	1
	2	8	5	2
	3	7	8	2
	4	6	7	2
2000	1	4	7	2
	2	6	9	4
	3	4	10	3
	4	4	9	3
2001	1	8	5	1
	2	11	6	2

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**