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Lower growth for exports

The value of goods exported from the Netherlands was 7% higher in July 2001 than in July 2000. According to the latest figures from Statistics Netherlands, Dutch exports amounted to over 19 billion euro. July's growth rate was well below the 13% for the first six months of this year.

The value of imports increased by 8% on July 2000 to almost 18 billion euro. In the first six months of the year the growth rate for imports was 9%. The lower growth rate was partly caused by the fact that price increases slowed down from the first six months of the year.

Growth of exports to EU lowest since late 1999

The growth rates for goods trade with EU countries was 7% in July for exports and 6% for imports. The export growth was the lowest since November 1999. In the first half of 2001 exports to EU countries increased by 13%.

In July the Netherlands imported over 9.5 billion euro worth of goods from other EU countries, and exported over 14.5 billion euro worth. The trade surplus with EU countries was over 40 billion euro for the first seven months of 2001.

Trade with non-EU countries

In July 2001 the value of exports to non EU countries increased by 7% to over 4.5 billion euro. The value of imports increased by 10% to over 8 billion euro. The trade deficit with non EU countries for the first seven months of 2001 was almost 28 billion euro.

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Statistics Netherlands is a department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs Table 1. Imports and exports, totals 1999-2001 (in billion EURO)

	Imports	Exports	Trade balance	
	·	·		
	billion euro	billion euro		
2000	216,1	231,9	15,8	
Jan	15,5	16,3	0,8	
Feb	16,8	17,8	1,0	
Mar	18,7	20,4	1,7	
April	16,5	17,4	0,9	
May	18,4	19,9	1,5	
Jun	17,9	19,0	1,1	
Jul	16,7	17,9	1,2	
Aug	16,8	18,7	2,0	
Sept	18,9	20,7	1,8	
Oct	20,0	21,3	1,3	
Nov	20,8	22,2	1,3	
Dec	19,1	20,3	1,2	
2001*				
Jan	19,1	20,6	1,6	
Feb	17,8	19,7	1,9	
Mar	20,0	22,3	2,4	
April	18,0	19,7	1,7	
May	19,1	21,0	2,0	
Jun	18,8	21,3	2,4	
Jul	18,0	19,2	1,2	

^{*} Preliminary figures

Source: CBS

Table2. year on year changes in imports and exports

Year	Imports	Exports
	% changes	
2000		
Q1	20	22
Q2	22	24
Q3	19	25
Q4	22	21
2001*		
Q1	11	15
Q2	6	10