



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Revenues from local taxes up 6.2%

Taxes levied by provincial, municipal and water board authorities will rise by 6.2% in 2002, bringing local taxes paid by residents and companies to a total 8.2 billion euro. According to provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands based on a survey of local government budgets, municipalities will receive 5.7 billion euro of this, the remainder goes to the provinces and water boards. Municipal taxes will increase by 6.2%, the lowest rate of increase in recent years: since 1998 the rate of increase has hovered around the 8% mark. The main reason for this is a relatively moderate growth in property tax.

Water board rates will rise by 5.2%, provincial levies by 7.7%.

Increases in local taxes levelling off

Local taxes rose by about 8% in the period 1998-2001. In 2002 municipalities will receive 338 million euro more in taxes than in 2001, an increase of 6.2%. The main municipal levy, property tax, will rise by 139 million euro, or 5.5%. Property tax will put nearly 2.7 billion euro in municipal coffers in 2002. Revenues from sewerage charges will amount to 0.7 billion euro, while the levy on waste disposal will increase to 1,2 billion euro.

Parking tax continue to rise

The increase in revenues from parking tax continues unabated. In 2002 municipalities expect to receive 341 million euro, 31 million euro (10.1%) more than in 2001. Only a small part of this amount, 4 million euro, can be attributed to municipalities starting to charge parking tax in 2002. In the Netherlands, 149 of the 496 municipalities now levy a parking tax.

Nearly a fifth of municipalities (104) will receive more money because they have put up rates, granted more parking licences or increased the number of locations with paid parking.

Commuter tax gaining ground

Revenues from commuter tax will rise by 16.0% to 14 million euro. Various municipalities have decided to levy commuter tax instead of tourist tax on holiday homes and permanent caravans. The increase in the number of holiday homes has contributed to the increase in tax revenues.

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Provinces levy more surtaxes

Provincial levies consist mostly of surcharges on road tax. As the number of cars increases and they become heavier on average, the amount of tax to be paid increases. In all nearly provinces revenues from this category will rise by between 6.4% and 15.7%. Only in North Holland will revenues remain about the same, as a consequence of temporary measures in this province to curb the increase in revenues.

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