



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Prices in industry down further in fourth quarter***

Dutch industrial selling prices in the fourth quarter of 2001 fell, following an earlier drop in the third quarter. Preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands further show that raw materials and semi-manufactured goods became cheaper in the fourth quarter of 2001. The consumption prices in industry fell more than the selling prices.

Selling prices increased slightly throughout 2001 compared to 2000, while industrial consumption prices did not change on average.

### ***Lower selling prices in fourth quarter***

Dutch industry charged lower prices in the fourth quarter of 2001. Selling price levels were down 2.7% in the third quarter of 2001 on average. Products sold on the domestic market were almost 2% cheaper. Foreign buyers paid over 3% less than in the third quarter. The price drop of industrial products followed an earlier drop in the third quarter of 2001, when selling prices were down 2.4% on prices in the second quarter.

Despite the fact that selling prices fell in the second half of 2001 the average price level for 2001 was 1.4% higher than in 2000. In turn selling prices in 2000 were almost 12% higher than in 1999.

The price developments of industrial products in 2001 are mainly the result of price changes in the chemical and the oil industry.

### ***Prices for industrial consumption falling more than selling prices***

In the fourth quarter of 2001 Dutch industry paid 4.5% less for raw materials and semi-manufactured goods than in the third quarter. This price drop is greater than the price drop for selling prices in the fourth quarter. Raw materials and semi-manufactured goods purchased in the Netherlands were over 2% cheaper in the fourth quarter. The prices of imported raw materials and semi-manufactured goods fell by over 6%. The drop in industrial consumption prices in the fourth quarter follows an almost 3% drop in the third quarter. On average industrial consumption prices in 2001 were at the same level as in 2000. Here too price changes in the chemical and the oil industry played a major role.

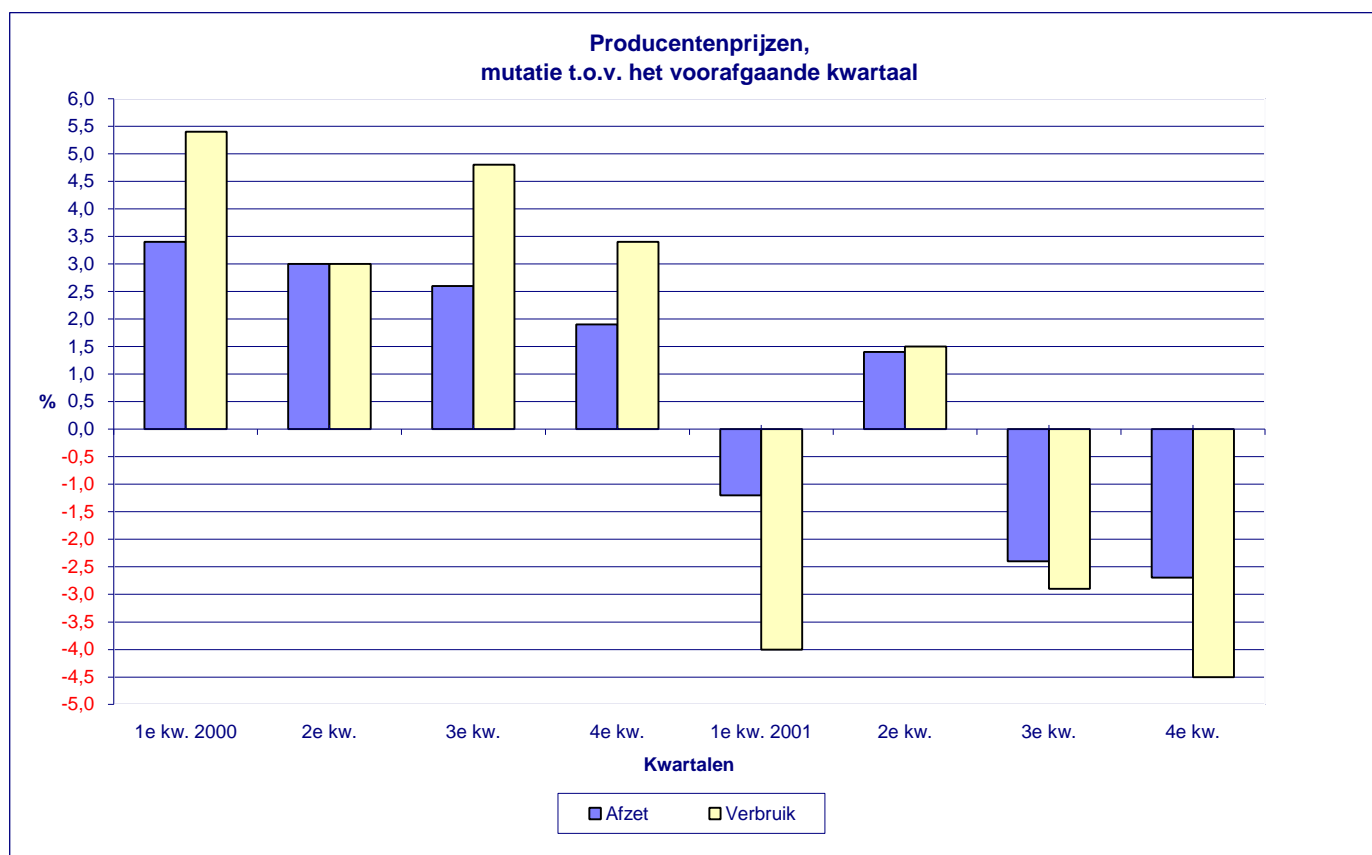
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Producer prices quarter on quarter changes



**Table 1: Producer prices changes on previous period**

Year	Period	% changes					
		Sales			consumption industry		
		domestic	abroad	Total	domestic	abroad	Total
2000	January	1.1	0.6	0.7	1.1	2.0	1.6
	February	1.1	1.8	1.6	1.6	3.8	2.8
	March	0.8	1.5	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.4
	April	-0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	-2.3	-1.4
	May	1.1	2.5	2.0	2.0	5.6	4.1
	June	0.8	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.5	1.4
	July	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.3	-0.6	0.2
	August	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.9	2.1	1.6
	September	1.4	2.8	2.3	2.1	4.5	3.5
	October	0.8	0.9	0.9	2.1	1.4	1.6
	November	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	1.7	1.2
	December	-0.7	-2.9	-2.1	-1.2	-9.0	-5.6
	1 quarter	2.7	3.9	3.4	3.0	7.3	5.4
	2 quarter	1.7	3.8	3.0	2.7	3.3	3.0
	3 quarter	2.1	3.0	2.6	4.2	5.2	4.8
	4 quarter	1.8	1.9	1.9	3.9	3.0	3.4
2001	January	0.6	-1.1	-0.4	-1.2	-2.4	-1.8
	February	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.6	3.1	2.4
	March	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.6	-2.8	-0.8
	April	0.2	1.1	0.8	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1
	May	0.4	1.1	0.8	-0.1	4.4	2.3
	June	-0.3	-0.9	-0.7	-1.5	0.1	-0.6
	July	-1.3	-2.3	-1.9	-2.7	-3.6	-3.2
	August *	-0.2	-0.9	-0.6	0.6	-0.4	0.0
	September*	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	-0.9	-0.2
	October*	-1.2	-2.4	-2.0	-2.6	-3.9	-3.3
	November*	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-0.6	-2.5	-1.7
	December*	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.3	-0.4	-0.1
	1 quarter	0.7	-2.4	-1.2	-0.2	-6.8	-4.0
	2 quarter	0.6	1.9	1.4	0.9	1.9	1.5
	3 quarter*	-1.4	-3.0	-2.4	-3.0	-2.7	-2.9
	4 quarter*	-1.9	-3.1	-2.7	-2.3	-6.3	-4.5

\* Preliminary figures. Adjusted figures in italics.

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**

**Table 2: Producer prices year on year changes**

Year	Period	% changes					
		Sales			consumption industry		
		domestic	abroad	Total	domestic	abroad	Total
2000	January	6,4	11,2	9,2	9,1	28,2	18,9
	February	7,7	13,8	11,4	11,5	33,4	22,8
	March	8,0	14,2	11,7	10,6	30,3	20,9
	April	7,3	13,4	11,1	11,4	22,1	17,1
	May	8,2	16,0	12,9	12,6	28,1	20,9
	June	8,8	15,7	13,0	12,2	28,1	20,6
	July	8,0	13,7	11,5	12,0	22,3	17,6
	August	7,8	14,2	11,6	12,1	23,4	18,2
	September	8,8	15,8	13,0	13,8	25,9	20,4
	October	9,2	16,3	13,5	15,0	26,5	21,2
	November	9,0	14,1	12,1	15,2	23,8	19,9
	December	7,6	9,2	8,6	13,1	10,7	11,8
	1 <sup>e</sup> quarter	7,4	13,1	10,7	10,4	30,6	20,9
	2 <sup>e</sup> quarter	8,1	15,0	12,3	12,1	26,1	19,5
	3 <sup>e</sup> quarter	8,2	14,6	12,1	12,6	23,9	18,7
	4 <sup>e</sup> quarter	8,6	13,2	11,4	14,4	20,2	17,6
	Year	8,1	14,0	11,6	12,4	24,9	19,1
2001	January	7,1	7,4	7,3	10,6	5,9	8,0
	February	6,6	6,6	6,7	10,5	5,2	7,5
	March	5,7	5,0	5,3	11,7	2,0	6,2
	April	6,2	5,9	6,0	11,6	4,2	7,6
	May	5,5	4,5	4,9	9,3	3,1	5,8
	June	4,3	3,0	3,5	6,2	1,6	3,6
	July	2,4	0,4	1,2	2,1	-1,5	0,1
	August	1,9	-1,5	-0,2	1,8	-3,9	-1,5
	September	0,7	-3,7	-2,0	0,3	-8,8	-4,9
	October	-1,3	-6,9	-4,8	-4,3	-13,6	-9,5
	November	-2,5	-7,5	-5,6	-5,5	-17,2	-12,1
	December	-2,2	-5,1	-4,0	-4,1	-9,3	-7,0
	1 quarter	6,5	6,3	6,4	10,9	4,4	7,2
	2 quarter	5,3	4,5	4,8	9,0	2,9	5,6
	3 quarter*	1,7	-1,6	-0,3	1,4	-4,9	-2,1
	4 quarter*	-2,0	-6,5	-4,8	-4,6	-13,5	-9,6
	year	2,8	0,5	1,4	3,9	-3,1	0,0

\* Preliminary figures. Adjusted figures in italics.

**Source: Statistics Netherlands**