



Statistics Netherlands

Press release

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Imports unchanged in October

According to the latest preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands the value of the imports of goods was 18.4 billion euro in October, the same as in October 2001. This broke the series of falling imports that lasted thirteen months in a row.

Exports increased by 1 percent to 20.8 billion euro. It is the second month in a row that exports increased, something that had not happened since July last year. In goods exports we noted higher prices. The trade surplus in October this year was 2.4 billion euro.

Trade with EU countries

The Netherlands imported 10.3 billion euro worth from the other EU member states in October. This is 2 percent more than in October 2001. Exports to the other EU countries were down by 1 percent in October on October last year, they were worth 15.7 billion euro. The trade balance with the EU countries was positive in October with a 5.4 billion euro surplus. Compared to October last year the trade surplus fell slightly.

Imports from non-EU countries continue to fall

In October the Netherlands imported 8.1 billion euro worth of goods from countries outside the EU, a 3 percent drop. It is the fourteenth month in a row that the imports from non-EU countries are falling. Exports to countries outside the EU were valued at 5.1 billion euro, which constitutes a 5 percent increase on October 2001. The trade deficit with non-EU countries fell from 3.5 billion euro in October 2001 to 3.0 billion euro in October of this year.

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Table 1: Imports and exports, 2000-2002

	Imports	Exports	Trade surplus	Imports	Exports
	billion euros			Year-on-year percentage changes	
2000					
January	15.5	16.3	0.8	17	18
February	16.8	17.8	1.0	26	28
March	18.7	20.4	1.7	17	19
April	16.5	17.4	0.9	16	17
May	18.4	19.9	1.5	31	37
June	17.9	19.0	1.1	18	18
July	16.7	17.9	1.2	16	21
August	16.8	18.7	2.0	24	34
September	18.9	20.7	1.8	18	22
October	20.0	21.3	1.3	28	25
November	20.8	22.2	1.3	25	25
December	19.1	20.3	1.2	15	14
2001					
January	19.3	20.6	1.4	25	26
February	18.0	19.9	1.9	7	11
March	20.2	22.5	2.3	8	11
April	17.7	19.4	1.6	8	12
May	19.1	21.0	2.0	4	6
June	18.9	21.0	2.1	5	10
July	17.8	18.9	1.1	6	5
August	17.0	18.5	1.4	1	-1
September	17.4	19.7	2.3	-8	-5
October	18.4	20.7	2.3	-8	-3
November	18.1	20.3	2.2	-13	-8
December	16.4	18.9	2.5	-14	-7
2002*					
January	16.4	18.7	2.3	-15	-9
February	16.1	18.5	2.4	-11	-7
March	18.0	20.9	2.9	-11	-7
April	17.5	18.9	1.5	-2	-2
May	17.1	19.7	2.6	-10	-6
June	17.1	19.8	2.7	-10	-6
July	16.5	18.7	2.3	-7	-1
August	15.5	17.8	2.3	-9	-4
September	17.3	20.4	3.1	-1	3
October	18.4	20.8	2.4	0	1

* Preliminary figures

Source: Statistics Netherlands