



Statistics Netherlands

Press release

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Exports continue to grow

The value of goods exported from the Netherlands in November 2002 was 3 percent above the level of November 2001. This is the third month in a row that exports increased, according to provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands. The value of exports amounted to nearly 21 billion euro in November. The value of imports was nearly 18 billion euro, 2 percent less than in November 2001. This is the fifteenth successive month that imports rose hardly or not at all. The developments in international trade in November 2002 are curbed as the month had one working day fewer in 2002 than in 2001. Exports also had to contend with higher prices.

Trade with EU countries one percent up

The Netherlands exported nearly 16 billion euro worth of goods to EU countries in November 2002, 1 percent more than in the same month in 2001. Imports from EU countries amounted to 10 billion euro in November, also 1 percent up on twelve months previously. In the first ten months of 2002 exports fell by 6 percent and imports by 4 percent. The balance of trade with the EU showed a surplus of 5.7 billion euro.

More exports to and fewer imports from non-EU countries

While imports from countries outside the EU have been falling for some time now, exports to these countries are rising. In November 2002 exports rose by 7 percent, at just over 5 billion euro. Imports fell by 6 percent, however, and amounted to just under 8 billion euro. In the first ten months of 2002 exports to these countries rose by 5 percent, while imports fell by 12 percent. There is a 2.5 billion euro deficit on the balance of trade with non-EU countries.

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