



# Press release

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## ***Energy use remains constant***

According to provisional figures released by Statistics Netherlands, energy use in the Netherlands was at the same level in 2002 as in 2001.

The use of natural gas in 2002 was about the same as in 2001. The use of petroleum products rose by 1 percent, while 1 percent less coal was used. This stabilisation comes after a slight rise in energy use in recent years.

### ***Use of natural gas constant***

Total consumption of natural gas was unchanged in 2002 on the previous year, but there was a shift in who used it. Electricity plants used 7 percent more gas in 2002 than in 2001. The manufacturing industry on the other hand used 1 percent less gas and households and the services sector 2 percent less. About half of the latter decrease was the result of the lower use of energy for heating as 2002 was warmer than 2001.

### ***Slightly more petroleum used***

The total use of petroleum and petroleum-based products rose by 1 percent in 2002 compared with 2001. Just about the same amount was used for transport fuel as in 2001: 460 petajoules (PJ).

### ***Electricity use continues to rise***

The Netherlands used just over 108.5 billion kWh of electricity in 2002, just over 1 percent more than in 2001. The increase was stronger in the three preceding years.

Electricity plants produced 5 percent more electricity in 2002 than in 2001. Production by decentralised total energy plants fell by 2 percent, on the other hand.

In 2002 5 percent less electricity was imported than in 2001. This is the second year in a row that electricity imports were down.

This is in sharp contrast with the preceding years: in the period 1998-2000 imports of electricity rose substantially, by 60 percent. This was mainly a consequence of the liberalisation of the Dutch energy market.

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