



Press release

PB03-190
24 October 2003
9:30 AM

Retail turnover down

Turnover in the retail sector was 3.3 percent lower in July 2003 than twelve months previously. Shops selling non-food articles accounted for most of this decrease: turnover for non-food retailers was 7.3 percent lower than in the same month in 2002.

Shops selling food, drink and tobacco booked 3.8 percent more turnover than in the same period last year, according to figures from Statistics Netherlands.

Retail prices were 0.3 percent higher than in the same period last year, so the volume of turnover was 3.6 percent lower.

Sharp drop for clothes and furniture stores

Consumers spent nearly 13 percent less in clothes shops in July 2003 than in the same month last year, and shops selling furniture and furnishings sold 12 percent less. Turnover in stores selling consumer electronics and do-it-yourself items also dropped substantially.

Prices in the non-food sector were 0.4 percent lower than twelve months previously. The volume of turnover was nearly 7 percent smaller.

Large increase in supermarket turnover

Supermarket turnover was 5.5 percent higher in July 2003 than in the same month last year. Shops specialising in food products such as greengrocers and butchers lost 3.5 percent turnover. For all shops selling food turnover was 3.8 percent higher than in July 2002.

Prices in food shops rose by 1.5 percent in July, which resulted in an increase in the volume of turnover of just over 2 percent.