

Statistics Netherlands

Annual Report

— 365 x 1 = 2006 —





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Report of the Director General of Statistics

In this annual report, Statistics Netherlands (in Dutch: Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, CBS) accounts for its activities and the results achieved in 2006. The envisioned results – publications, articles and tables with statistical information – were laid down in the annual plan for 2006. Most of the promised output for 2006 proceeded according to plan. Customer satisfaction, measured among the users of statistics and respondents, is stable. With the financial statements at the end of this annual report Statistics Netherlands also accounts for the financial results.

The policy intentions of Statistics Netherlands are stated in general terms in the budget of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Statistics Netherlands is also accountable through a series of performance indicators. These are included in this annual report in the margins of the texts on the subjects to which the indicators refer.

The Central Commission for Statistics, chaired by J.N. van Lunteren since 1 January 2006, supervises Statistics Netherlands. It has adopted the financial statements and approved the annual report.

Statistical work programme carried out as planned

The statistical output planned for 2006 was pretty much realised according to plan. Vacancies caused delays as did some problems with the implementation of the General Business Register. However, by 31 December 2006 almost everything was back on track.

All statistical output produced by Statistics Netherlands goes into StatLine, the statistical database accessible through the CBS website. Furthermore a large number of press releases, articles, periodicals and thematic publications are published on paper and online. April 2006 saw the publication *Het Nederlandse ondernemingsklimaat in cijfers*, in which the business climate in the Netherlands is compared to that in other countries on the basis of seventy indicators. September 2006 saw an integrated description of the Dutch economy in the *Nederlandse Economie 2005*. October 2006 saw a joint publication with the Netherlands Institute for Spatial Research (RPB), the *Regionale bevolkingsprog-*

nose 2005 – 2025, in which the population development at the regional level is explored for the first time.

These are just a few of the many publications produced in 2006. The chapter 'Implementation of the statistical programme' details the statistical output of 2006.

Renewal of the statistical programme on track

The renewal of the statistical programme, as laid down in the Multi-annual programme 2004 – 2008, has 14 areas of special focus. Most are well on track, but some aspects of some focal areas are facing some delays. Such delays are due to difficulties in obtaining the necessary primary information in a form that CBS can use. Also, it turns out to be hard to fill vacancies. Nevertheless most of the targets in the renewal programme for 2006 were met. In 2007 we can extend the formation available for the renewal programme.

Preparations in place for a new multi-annual programme

In 2006 CBS image studies and environmental scans were carried out in order to prepare a new strategy for the medium range, to be laid down in the multi-annual programme for 2009 – 2013. This will be written up by the end of 2007. The studies have already led to the conclusion that key issues in the new programme will be to increase the accessibility of the data available at Statistics Netherlands, to improve services for the users of statistical information, and to create more room for cooperation and for tailor-made solutions.

Reducing the administrative burden

Statistics Netherlands is committed to reducing the administrative burden by cutting the burden caused by surveys with 4 percent a year. The result has been a reduction of almost 26 percent since 2002. Statistics Netherlands had already succeeded in reducing the administrative burden by over 60 percent between 1994 and 2002, by using data from the fiscal authorities and policy information of the UWV for the labour and wage statistics. In doing so, Statistics Netherlands was able to abolish its own survey on employment and wages. This was good news for about 80 thousand companies. However, the volume of questions and therefore the costs of supplying data for the international trade statistics have been influenced by the expansion of the EU and the recovery of the Dutch economy.

The share of Statistics Netherlands in the total administrative burden caused by the government is now less than 0.15 percent. In the perception of the small and medium sized business community, however, Statistics Netherlands is always somewhere in the top 10 of irritating government institutions. So the focus will not only be on increasing the use of data from administrations and

registers, but also on how the respondents feel about data collection. Surveys will be made easier to fill out, and relevant information will be provided back to the respondents.

Active international role

Statistics Netherlands has been involved in improving the European Statistical System through active participation in various international bodies. A European code of practice was laid down to guarantee the independence of the national European statistical bureaus and to improve the quality, reliability, and timeliness of the figures on government finances of the member states. In 2006 a small team of international experts studied the extent to which the Netherlands meets the principles of the European code of practice. Statistics Netherlands and the Czech bureau of statistics were the first to 'undergo' this peer review. Statistics Netherlands provides technical assistance to several countries by exchanging information, advice and courses. This support is financed by the European Commission. Besides visits by foreign colleagues to Statistics Netherlands and vice versa and by organising international meetings, the technical assistance is supplemented by a regular exchange of information with foreign colleagues.

Process renewal as the basis for cutting the workforce

The in-house statistical production processes are being modernised. There is a shift away from surveying toward using administrative sources and registers (register files) and standardising the working method and ICT infrastructure. Redesigning the processes and standardising the infrastructure must result in a single uniform CBS business architecture. This is to lead to more quality, transparency and efficiency in the business processes as well as less vulnerability and maintenance of the systems used.

Two major programmes were launched in the past year to achieve this. The first aims to develop a set of standardised, widely applicable methods, tools and services for designing total statistical processes, from data collection to the publication of the results. In 2007 the first statistical processes will be redesigned through these 'generic process services'.

The second programme aims to redesign the whole chain of economic statistics. Basic economic statistics supply input for integrative statistics such as the National Accounts. The chain currently has too many dependencies, so the programme is intended to optimise the chain and minimise overlap in work. The standardised services developed in the first programme will be used to redesign the chain. J.E.J. van Angelen, who became a member of the executive board on 1 February 2006, supervises process innovation and the relocation of the computer centre. Implementing the changes may produce some risks for the statistics involved because of the reforms and the use of external registers that may be

unstable. Examples are the projects HABR (renewing the business register) and Walvis (simplifying Dutch social security) as well as the new municipal registers. These internal process changes go hand in hand with the use of external registers, as is the case elsewhere within Statistics Netherlands. In several areas extra temporary staff is employed to limit the risks.

New personnel needed despite personnel cuts

The process renewal and standardisation must make a further reduction of the workforce possible. Personnel cuts through efficiency gains were promised when Statistics Netherlands became an autonomous agency in 2004. The agreed result is about 1900 fte by 2012, which is a 10 percent reduction of the current workforce.

The changes in the processes will not only reduce the workforce but also change the way it is made up. Furthermore, the programme renewal and the implementation of the focal points will require the influx of highly educated people. In the spring and autumn of 2006 campaigns were started to hire the new employees, but in the course of the year it became clear that the tighter job market made it hard to hire enough qualified people. Hiring will therefore remain a priority on the human resource agenda.

A second focal point in human resource policy is training and education the current workforce. A major programme was developed for the ICT division, including training, coaching and educating management and personnel to raise the quality of the organisation to market levels and keep it there. A strategic human resource plan was written in the autumn of 2006. This includes comparable initiatives for the other parts of the organisation and other staff categories.

Professionalizing the management

As Statistics Netherlands became an autonomous agency in 2004, attention for management issues became more manifest. Various improvement actions were initiated in 2006. Statistics Netherlands wants to create a 'framework of statistical standards' with criteria for the quality of statistics. Furthermore it seeks to define standards for the budget, for risk management and for project management. Automating data processing also remains a key issue.

Following the immense improvement of the processes for planning & control and financial management, started in 2005, Statistics Netherlands carried out an extensive risk analysis in June 2006 of all aspects of the organisation. The most vulnerable points have subsequently been addressed.

Statistics Netherlands identified the statistical results that are crucial for clients and users of statistics, which Statistics Netherlands considers 'statistics that determine its image'. These statistics are monitored explicitly and carefully so that any problems or risks can be recognised and dealt with on time.

Number of internal audits

Performance indicator:

- Quality care
Audits of processes carried out

Target value:

- Six

Actual:

- Nine audits carried out in 2006
(value 2004: six; value 2005: six)

A business continuity plan was made to guarantee the continuity of the operational processes in the widest sense, in which continuity of the ICT infrastructure is key.

For HRM risks there is the previously mentioned strategic plan for personnel. The hiring and training programmes are the first results, but actions are also on their way in other areas.

The financial management process and the administrative organisation improved in 2006, while the budgeting technique is still undergoing quality improvement. A strategic costs model is being developed to better manage and control operating costs.

In 2006 a set of revised performance indicators (or 'non-financial indicators') was developed that will be implemented as of 2007. The revised set highlights Statistics Netherlands' relevant strategic and operational aims even more.

Prepared to move

Both the Voorburg and Heerlen locations no longer meet modern office requirements. The properties are old and require upgrading. The Voorburg office will relocate at the start of 2008 to a newly built property in Leidschenvveen, a suburb of The Hague, where building started in June 2006. The new building in Heerlen for Statistics Netherlands will be built right next to the current facilities. The actual move in Heerlen is planned for the summer of 2009. A single interior design concept was developed for both new buildings.

There is a computer centre in both locations. In preparation of the moves, both computer centres are put together and moved to a specially created location in Apeldoorn, while back-up facilities are being set up at the same time. Preparations for this critical operation and the required adaptation of the ICT infrastructure started in 2006.

Positive budget and actual financial results in 2006

The total revenues of Statistics Netherlands in 2006 amounted to 179.6 million euro, of which 10.4 million euro came from work ordered by others, and 172.9 million euro was budgeted.

The difference between the budgeted and the actual result is more than 10 million euro. This was caused by some windfalls such as the higher wage and price compensation than foreseen for 2006, lower depreciation costs, higher revenues from orders for third parties, and higher revenues from interest.

The number of vacancies, which was higher than normal, made that the budget for personnel costs was not exhausted. This was not compensated by hiring temp workers. The lack of personnel led to a fairly limited delay in the realisation of the annual plan, specifically in the spearheads and development projects. On 31 December 2005 Statistics Netherlands had a capital of 5.8 million euro, consisting of the cumulative results of the years 2004, 2005 and 2006. Taking

Result for the financial year

Performance indicator:

- Efficiency
Result for the financial year

Target value:

- A result for the financial year of at least € 0

Actual:

- net result € 10.8 million
(value 2004: € -8.9 million;
value 2005 € 4.0 million)

the agreements about financing into account that were made with the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the cash flow prognoses indicate that there will no liquidity problems in the next few years.

The financial statements and explanatory notes are included in this annual report starting at page 48. The financial statements are audited and certified by KPMG Accountants NV, as is shown in the certificate included after the financial statements.

G. van der Veen
Director General of Statistics Netherlands
Voorburg/ Heerlen, 23 March 2007

Mission statement

Statistics Netherlands was founded in 1899 and was assigned the task of collecting, processing and publishing statistics for practical, policy and scientific purposes. In Statistics Netherlands' current statutory principles – the Act of 20 November 2003, enacting a law governing Statistics Netherlands – this still constitutes the core of Statistics Netherlands' assignment.

In Dutch society, successive coalitions of political parties and pressure groups strive to achieve their own views and ideas. In those circumstances, the importance of factually based unbiased information which is accepted by all concerned as a basic principle is significant. The quality of the statistical information must be unquestioned. Statistics should be available swiftly and reveal the contextual relationship between all kinds of social developments.

Statistics Netherlands' mission is:

Drawing up and publishing undisputed, coherent, up-to-date statistical information for practical policy and scientific purposes.

Central Commission for Statistics

The Central Commission for Statistics (CCS) is responsible for setting the statistical work programme of Statistics Netherlands. In addition it shares responsibility for adopting the budget and the annual accounts of Statistics Netherlands, approving the annual report of Statistics Netherlands. The Commission also supervises various tasks, such as reducing the administrative burden, avoiding unwanted competition, and making micro data available. Furthermore, the CCS must stimulate the coordination of national statistics.

During the year the CCS directs on the basis of regular management information and biannual reports of the Minister of Economic Affairs. Once every five years a new strategic multi-annual programme is written that serves as a benchmark for the proposals for the annual programmes.

The Audit Committee (AC) of the CCS prepares the discussion of management issues. The AC writes the financial reports, budget and the financial statements. The CCS produces its own annual report for the Minister of Economic Affairs to account for the way it carries out its tasks. The annual report is published at the Statistics Netherlands website ([www.cbs.nl /about us/Organisation/Central Commission for Statistics](http://www.cbs.nl/about-us/Organisation/Central-Commission-for-Statistics)). The CCS is pleased with the improved transparency of the planning and greater focus on output, but the CCS is concerned about the number of unfilled vacancies at Statistics Netherlands, since this can endanger the realisation of the plans.

The Minister of Economic Affairs appointed a new member per 1 July 2006, Professor J.T.M. van der Zee, bringing the membership at nine in total.

Members of the CCS

The CCS on January 2007:

CHAIR:

J.N. van Lunteren, (chair AC)

DEPUTY CHAIR:

J.J. van Duijn, (member AC)

MEMBERS:

Prof. J. van Doorne-Huiskes

G.J. Hogeweg

J.M.A. van Huut RA (member AC)

M.B.G.M. Oostendorp (member AC)

P.C. Plooi-Van Gorsel

Prof. C.G.M. Sterks

Prof. J.T.M. van der Zee

Approval of the annual report by the CCS

In conformity with articles 53 and 70 of the Statistics Netherlands Act (CBS-wet) this annual report, including the full financial statements, was submitted for approval to the Central Commission for Statistics.

Statement by the Central Commission for Statistics

The Central Commission for Statistics has taken cognisance of the 2006 Annual Report and Financial Statements of Statistics Netherlands.

Based on its authority laid down in the Statistics Netherlands Act of 2003 (Bulletin of Acts and Degrees 516) it hereby approves the 2006 Annual Report of Statistics Netherlands.

Likewise based on its statutory authority, it agrees with the adoption of the Financial Statements of Statistics Netherlands by the Director General of Statistics.

In its annual report for 2006, the Commission reports on the exercise of its tasks and that of the Audit Committee ([www.cbs.nl/about Statistics Netherlands/organisation/CCS](http://www.cbs.nl/about/Statistics%20Netherlands/organisation/CCS)).

Voorburg, 23 March 2007

J.N. van Lunteren, chair

P. Spannenburg, secretary





Patricia Richardson, senior accounting and reporting
at DSM Food Specialties in Delft

Nice and simple

‘Due to the increased use of the internet Statistics Netherlands managed to cut the administrative burden it causes, in recent years. However, there is always room for improvement. Make the returns simple, without too many subjective questions or complicated forms with many annexes. Keep it nice and simple.’



Programme renewal

Statistics Netherlands is implementing a renewal programme so it can attain integrated descriptions of current social themes. The renewal programme consists of areas requiring special focus laid down in the multi-annual programme 2004 – 2008. This multi-annual programme is on the CBS-site ([www.cbs.nl/about us/corporate information/publications](http://www.cbs.nl/about-us/corporate-information/publications)).

1 & 9. Social dynamics and extension of the labour accounts

The focus on social dynamics aims to improve the statistical information about the socio- economic course of people's lives. A key aspect is the dynamics on the labour market. Information was published on StatLine about the annual developments in the wages earned by employees who graduated from college and university in 2000. New information was added about the socio-economic integration of immigrants (on having a job, or having benefits related to the number of years of residence in the Netherlands) and their children. Also, data was gathered and published on combining family care and paid work in families with children. Finally there is new information on the length of unemployment among the unemployed labour force.

2. Micro data infrastructure

In 2006 Statistics Netherlands took steps to improve access to CBS micro data. The Centre for Policy Statistics makes micro data available. It directs and supervises the current options for working on-site at Statistics Netherlands. Furthermore, facilities for remote access are taken into production, so researchers can analyse CBS data from their own offices elsewhere. The first ten links have now been hooked up. In 2006 the number of micro files available to researchers from other institutions was extended by files from the Social Statistical Database (SBB) and the POLS Survey. In terms of statistical security there has been a revision of the Handboek beveiliging (the manual on security).

3. Long time series

The focus on long time series has two aims. One is to calculate and maintain consistent up-to-date time series (for policy research) and the other is to safe-

guard and provide access to the statistical heritage of Statistics Netherlands. The Expert centre for long time series has been assigned to develop methodology to support the departments involved.

In the national accounts time series project, people are recalculating the 2001 revision of the National Accounts over a 30 year period. In April 2006 the revised time series for the period 1995 – 2001 was published, and in December 2006 the series 1987 – 1995 was completed. In the course of 2007 the revised figures for 1969 – 1987 will be published, completing the 2001 revision. Furthermore the main voids in the various historical time series (1900–now) on StatLine are starting to be filled.

4. Health, social work and care

The focus on health, social work and care aims to develop a complete, cohesive and consistent statistical picture of the money flows in health and social work, of the care providers, users and the state of health and wellbeing of the population. In 2006 new figures were published about the number of people without health insurance. New figures were published about expenditure for health-related research and development. The second edition of Health and care in figures came out with new results about labour productivity in hospitals, the relationship between hospital admissions and income, care for the elderly and the skewed distribution of the hospital costs.

5. The aging of the population

The focus on aging aims to provide a cohesive and consistent description of the increasing grey pressure. In 2006 the emphasis was on the future financial economic situation of people who are currently aged 55 – 64. This resulted in a regular statistic at the start of the year and a publication about pension rights of the Dutch population. There were also publications about participation rates and unemployment among older people.

Based on a successful pilot and a seminar, data collection started on pension funds to develop statistics on work-related pensions, starting a study together with the Dutch Association of Insurers in 2006 for statistics on individually built-up pension provisions. A study was presented on the Dutch pension system in a conference on the International Association for Research, Income and Wealth, held every two years. A pension module for the national accounts will be developed, based on the information about the various pillars on which pensions are based.

6. Space, housing and mobility

The focus on space, housing and mobility develops statistics at the local and regional level, providing insight in the way space is allocated in a tiny country

like the Netherlands. The publication *Kerncijfers wijken en buurten* on StatLine is extended with more data and historical information. Information was produced about the population per postal code area and by populations by origin and types of neighbourhood. 2006 saw the first edition of *Provincie op maat*. A regional day for municipalities and provinces was organised to inform them of the various developments in (low) regional and spatial statistics. There is cooperation with the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG), the InterProvinciaal Overleg and the province Overijssel in making data available and publishing analyses of the data.

The set up of the statistical database on real estate (SBV) did not proceed quite as planned due to problems linking government registers with geographic information.

7. Integrated information on education

The focus on integrated information on education aims to meet the need for statistical information on education through the optimal use of existing sources, such as relating the education numbers to registrations on other themes, and linking education finances to participation in education. When necessary, surveys will be held in addition to this. As of 2006 a new cohort of secondary students, categorised by background characteristics, will be fully observed through register information. In 2006 basic information was set up on students leaving secondary general and vocational education without diplomas, by background characteristics. Furthermore, the section 'education' of the 'Social Statistical Database' was set up. In December 2006 a first draft became available of the statistics on costs per graduate, comparing the financing of education with volume data on participation in education (students and the probability of them passing another year). In 2006 Statistics Netherlands experts participated in the European Task force Adult Education Survey, for which an inventory was made to meet additional departmental information needs on adult education.

8 & 14. Productivity and the knowledge-based economy

Statistics Netherlands reached several milestones in the area of productivity statistics and analysis in 2006, supplying data to the EUKLEMS project. This is a European project in which productivity statistics and analyses for the countries of the European Union over long periods are carried out. Furthermore, data sets and an analytical model for Dutch productivity were developed. The results of this project were presented in November 2006 on a study session for scientists and policy makers in the field. The micro-level data have been made available for users outside Statistics Netherlands. The macro data will be published in 2007.

In 2006 preliminary time series were created for R&D production and consumption, ICT capital and expenditure on education and training. 2006 also saw the start of the project on internationalising R&D, since many major companies increasingly operate in multinational consortiums rather than sticking to one country. Preparations were made to interview multinationals on this phenomenon at the start of 2007. By December a project had started to study innovation among small companies and companies in the services sector.

10. Extending price and volume information

In 2006 work was carried out on the project measuring prices in the imports and exports of goods. There is little price information available on re-exports, which are imported goods that may undergo some minor processing before being exported right away. A good measurement of prices is very important to determine the volume changes of the gross domestic product (GDP). This requires setting up price observations in the wholesale trade in particular. In 2006 a methodology was developed for this, which will be completed and implemented in 2007.

11. Trade and services

This focus project started from the observation in the multi-annual programme 2004-2008 that the statistics on services were less developed than those on agriculture and industrial production. Services cover a wide range of activities: trade (retail, wholesale), hotels and restaurants, temporary employment agencies, software firms, accountants, engineers, as well as government, banks, insurance, education, care, culture, sports and recreation. To monitor and explain the development of these branches and their specific characteristics (dynamics, key role of the small and medium-sized businesses, diversity), it may be necessary to include questions about extra variables, and select a more flexible set up than with the more traditional sectors.

In 2006 external and internal information requirements were listed, and in May 2006 the first results and set up of the project were discussed with the advisory council for economic statistics. In November 2006 the results of the exploration were discussed with the external and internal users during an information and discussion session.

Furthermore the project on services started. It focuses on commercial services and has shown how the gaps in the supply of information can be filled. Available material is made available better by publishing articles and tables.

In 2007 the project on commercial services will be completed, and the results will be carried over and implemented in the regular statistics. A start was made with projects on trade, transport and the public sector with an approach similar to the one used for the commercial services project.

The project international sourcing is entirely different in nature: together with Eurostat and other member states a survey is carried out among major companies about outsourcing.

12. Fast economic indicators

In the Multi-annual programme 2004 – 2008 Statistics Netherlands stated the ambition to become one of the three fastest countries in Europe to supply figures on the economy for the European statistics. Since the European Central Bank wishes to publish the figures of the member states simultaneously, Statistics Netherlands has adapted its ambition and now simply complies with the terms set by European law. There is no direct need to publish faster, so instead the Bureau shifted its focus in 2007 on widening and strengthening the economic statistics.

13. Coherent information about justice and security


With the special focus on coherent information about justice and security Statistics Netherlands produces a coherent picture of the macro-economic, socio-economic and social consequences of the policy on security. Linking data of victims and suspected perpetrators at the individual level is providing new insights. In 2006 a new StatLine publication was realised with the characteristics of suspects. Security accounts (the costs and effect of security care) offer a coherent, consistent and integrated statistical description of the financial flows in the area of security.

15. International economic relations

In the focus on international economic relations, globalisation is studied by theme through national and international definitions and analyses models. The paper *Speerpunt Internationale Economische Relaties (SIER)* was discussed in the advisory council on economic statistics, and following the council's advice consultations were started in 2006 with strategic partners.

At the initiative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs a study was started in 2006 on the publication of several indicators on the degree of globalisation. The pilot project on technically linking micro data on companies to micro data on individuals was completed, making it possible to describe consistent models and analyses of the effects of the open economy on employment (creating/cutting jobs) and prosperity.





Melanie van Bracht, Environmental manager at Alcoa Nederland BV. in Drunen and Harderwijk

Administrative burden reduced

‘We clearly notice the effects of the effort Statistics Netherlands makes to reduce the administrative burden for companies.

In the past we filled in several questionnaires and often reported things double. Now I just have to fill in one questionnaire a month.’



Melanie van Bracht



Regular work programme

There is also renewal in the regular work programme, aiming to adapt the current processing methods or programs, or changes leading to output that serves the users better. The work programme revolves around six themes.

People and their activities

About the main theme Statistics on people and their activities refer to population development, health, education, employment, absenteeism, working conditions, purchasing power, consumption, and social security benefits. The population and household forecast by Statistics Netherlands are essential building blocks for planning to construct new schools, dwellings, care and government provisions. Wage statistics are important in measuring the competitive position of the Dutch economy, and negotiating working conditions between the social partners. Statistics on welfare and re-integration are crucial for understanding local policy on work and income. Information from the statistics on income and the budget survey are used to indicate poverty and social exclusion. The labour force survey provides key information on unemployment, job hunting and how education and the job market match. The POLS survey provides many indicators for periodical reports on the health of the population, and policies on emancipation, youth, the elderly, the disabled, and other vulnerable groups in society. The Social Statistics Database offers policymakers and researchers information about the flexibility of the job market, integration of immigrants into Dutch society and security issues in the country.

StatLine has information about the social monitor, population, health and welfare, quality of life, education, culture, tourism, recreation and sport, justice and security, housing, population by source of income, job market, income, expenditure and capital, and social security.

The year 2006 In 2006 the figures on the population size and composition, as well as changes in the population, were published according to plan. New were the monthly preliminary figures on population size and composition. Some thirty demographic papers were published in the quarterly Bevolkingstrends. In December 2006 a press conference was held to present the new population forecast up to 2050.

Together with the Netherlands Institute for Spatial Research a detailed forecast on regional populations and people with foreign backgrounds was published: *Regionale bevolkings- en allochtonenprognose 2005 – 2025*. This is the first time that all Dutch municipalities are provided with an up to date, wide-ranging, coherent picture of future regional population developments. November 2006 also saw the publication of the regional household forecast: *Regionale huishoudensprognose*.

Based on the POLS survey, the figures about health status, life style and use of care were published according to plan. Together with the institute for research on addictions (IVO) Statistics Netherlands published the first standardised set of key figures on drugs use. By December 2006 figures came out about expectancy of living in good health, that is, how long men and women can expect to live in good health without limitations.

In the area of justice and security, the focus in 2006 was on implementing and analysing a report on the national safety monitor: *Veiligheidsmonitor Rijk*. The study was carried out within the framework of an agreement to cooperate with the Ministries of the Interior and of Justice. The *Veiligheidsmonitor* should provide a better picture about victims of crime, feelings of insecurity among the population, problems in neighbourhoods, and police performance.

Early on in 2006 the eighth edition was published of the yearbook on education: *Jaarboek onderwijs in cijfers*. This has information about pupils and students, education facilities and education expenditure. This year the focus was on secondary vocational education. Late in 2006 the first results of the study on training of employees in companies and its costs became available: *Onderzoek Bedrijfsopleidingen 2005*.

Structural information about the size and composition of the labour force became available according to plan in 2006. A report was made about the special module on how, within the framework of the European Labour Force Survey, to combine work and family life. By June 2006 the results of the European labour costs survey were supplied to Eurostat, as is required once every four years. Statistics Netherlands used only outside sources and no surveys of its own for this.

In 2006 the results became available of the new national working conditions survey, a joint project of Statistics Netherlands and TNO Quality of Life. This survey provides a great deal of information for the *Arbobalans*, an annual review of the state of affairs in working conditions. By December 2006 the new figures of the national statistic on absenteeism came out according to plan.

A study was carried out together with the centre for work and income, CWI, to see if vacancy statistics can be entirely based on the CWI database. So far this turned out to be impossible, but as of reporting year 2006, the three-monthly vacancy survey by Statistics Netherlands is mostly carried out through telephone interviews. This substantially reduces the time it takes to process the data. In 2006 it came close to the 45 day period agreed within the European framework.

Response Labour Force Survey

Performance indicator:

- Realisation norm response
Response on labour force survey

Target value:

- 58%

Actual:

- 65% response in 2006
(value 2004: 60%;
value 2005: 65%)

In 2006 the quarterly figures about people receiving benefits were published according to plan, including how long people receive welfare benefits, and the number of reintegration tracks by municipalities.

The income information system was adapted to incorporate the new fiscal regulations on rent, care, and childcare. 2006 saw the publication of the income statistics: *Inkomensstatistiek 2004*. Furthermore, the first results became available of the extended regional income survey on 2004.

A joint publication with the Social and Cultural Planning Office of the Netherlands (SCP) is the *Armoedebericht 2006* with key figures and estimates of poverty in the Netherlands. A second joint publication with the SCP was the fourth *Emancipatiemonitor 2006* which came out at the end of 2006.

The Social Statistics Database (SSB) was extended according to plan in 2006, in line with the goals of Statistics Netherlands to produce integral, linked, integrated micro data that cover an entire field. In addition to the StatLine publications, some twenty papers based on SSB data were published by Statistics Netherlands and elsewhere. Researchers made large scale use of SSB data, mostly by on-site research at the Bureau. A great deal of interest was generated by the publication of the *Integratiekaart* based on the SSB in cooperation with the research and documentation centre of the Ministry of Justice (WODC). The map shows the position of immigrant groups in various areas and their development over time. By December a local integration map for municipalities became available on the Internet and StatLine: *Lokale Integratiekaart*.

New StatLine tables were constructed from SSB data, including the population structure by type of neighbourhood, about work and social benefits per municipality by background/origin, about early retirement of employed people, about crime suspects per municipality of residence, and about the socio-economic integration of immigrants in recent years.

Finally, in 2006 the results of the census of the population, occupations and dwellings of 1930 were made available through StatLine for historical study.

Reduction of the administrative burden From the third quarter of 2006 onwards it is no longer necessary for 80 thousand companies to supply data to Statistics Netherlands for the survey on employment and wages. These are mainly small and medium-size companies. This is a result of Project Walvis. Part of Walvis is the central supply of wage data to the fiscal authorities and the introduction of the administration of insurance policies by the UWV, which includes data supplied by employers when they declare wages. Since Statistics Netherlands could start using the UWV policy administration in 2006, it became possible to cut the administrative burden even further for the business community.

The business community

About the main theme Business statistics deal with the number of enterprises and turnover, costs, results per branch of industry, construction, energy use, transport flows and financial markets. The information underlies the description of how the Dutch economy functions, and this finds its way to the ministries, European Commission, Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis and the organised business community.

In 2006 tables were published about the number of companies, bankruptcies, financial statements of companies, agriculture and fisheries, the manufacturing industry, retail and wholesale trade, construction industry, construction of dwellings, services, international trade, energy and water, traffic and transport, mobility of individuals, tourism, recreation and sport. The tables about the business climate, wind energy, transport of people, were refreshed this year.

2006 saw the first output on mobility of people on the basis of the Mobility survey in the Netherlands. These data were collected by the Ministry of Transport, Public Works, and Water Management.

The year 2006 The start of the information gathering for business statistics is the general business register *Algemeen Bedrijfsregister* (ABR). By mid 2006, the basic redesigned ABR was implemented. It is easier to link this new ABR to external sources, particularly data from the tax authorities, via the new trade register that includes the basic business register.

In 2006 Statistics Netherlands cooperated in several European pilots on Foreign Affiliate Trade Statistics (FATS). In 2006 the inward FATS and the European Structural Business Statistics (SBS) were fully linked. Inward FATS measure the foreign influence on Dutch business.

The statistical work programme for agriculture and fisheries is almost entirely determined by the European demand for information. The greatest supply concerns the results of the Farm Structure Survey, a survey among all 90 thousand agricultural holdings in the Netherlands. In July 2006 detailed results were supplied to Eurostat. The data collection on ecological agriculture was temporarily halted in 2006. Apart from the survey by Statistics Netherlands there is also a register with comparable information that is processed and published by others. A study is carried out to see if Statistics Netherlands can switch to the register or if the data collection should be stopped altogether.

The results of construction were integrated with the other statistics on the construction industry in 2006, such as the prices and the number of newly built dwellings.

Since 2006 Statistics Netherlands has information on the average annual number of kilometres driven by cars based on data of the Stichting Nationale Autopas. In 2006 the quarterly statistics on the finances of enterprises was taken into production. The outcomes of these statistics form major input for the quarterly sector accounts.

Reducing the administrative burden caused by surveys

Performance indicator:

- Administrative burden
Burden caused by surveys

Target value:

- annual reduction of 4%, based on
€ 26.9 million in 2002
(without the international trade in services
this was € 23.5 million, as noted in the
annual plan)

Actual:

- In 2006 the survey pressure was
€ 19.8 million, down 26% on 2002
(preliminary figure)
(value 2005: € 19.1 million, down 29%
on 2002)

Reduction of the administrative burden Statistics Netherlands again used more registers in 2006 as Statistics Netherlands gained access to the customer data base of the energy companies for the production of the energy statistics. A new method was developed to estimate the turnover of small companies in the annual production statistics of the various sectors of industry, based on register information. The introduction of the new method, and the late supply on VAT data and corporate tax data by the fiscal authorities, caused some delay in the publication of the results of these statistics in 2006.

The data on inland shipping could not be published due to major problems at the Inspectorate of Transport, Public Works, and Water Management.

The annual plan for 2006 mentioned the project systematic screening of digital registers. In the course of 2006 this project was renamed pilots in register use. The project specifically studied if the data from the online tax declarations of profits, available since June 2006, offered possibilities for use in the production statistics.

Through the *OverheidsTransactiePoort* data were supplied about the export of flowers. The pilot phase has been concluded successfully. In the meantime the practical test of electronic standardised statistics data capture started, where data from automated cash register systems are supplied to Statistics Netherlands. The project must make it possible to assess if the data taken directly from cash register systems can be used for statistical purposes.

In 2006 selected companies were offered the possibility to fill out the production statistics electronically. 7 800 companies of the 70 thousand were involved in the test. The results of the test were successful and so, in 2007, all companies are asked to fill out an electronic questionnaire in first instance. Furthermore, a questionnaire is being designed with fewer variables.

The *Nederlands Taxonomie Project* (NTP) is a project of the public and private sectors where Statistics Netherlands, the Chambers of Commerce and the tax authorities cooperated. With the development of the taxonomy, a glossary for constructing and exchanging financial statements, tax declarations and statistical returns, it becomes possible to get information for statistical purposes directly from business administrations. The NTP is commissioned by the Ministries of Justice and Finance. In 2006 the first version of the taxonomy was completed, so as of 1 January 2007 it is possible to receive and process the statistical return in XBRL and based on the Dutch taxonomy. Managing the financial-economic taxonomy in terms of content fits within the ambition of Statistics Netherlands to be a Bureau of Standards.

The use of bio fuel in road traffic was encouraged by the government in 2006. The questionnaire for the oil statistics was adapted after consultation with the branch organisations. This meets the requirement for supplying data to the International Energy Agency and Eurostat.

The preliminary outcome for 2006 of the indicator for administrative burden is 19.8 million euro (taking into account the take over of the statistics on international trade and services of DNB). This is 26 percent less than the administrative

burden in 2002, meeting the target value. It is a slight increase in comparison with the final figure on 2005 (19.1 million euro). This is the result of the increase in the international trade in goods and services, the enlargement of the EU, and the economic recovery. The latter meant that more companies exceeded the 400 thousand euro observation threshold and more transactions per company had to be reported.

The public sector

About the main theme Statistics on the public sector refer to the output and finances of the various governments, health care, welfare, culture, leisure, justice and security. Information about the revenues and expenditure of municipalities is important for the Ministry of Finance to check if the total budget deficit stays within the European limits. Policies on education, health care, young people, and culture greatly depend on statistics on cost, financing and the use of provisions. Maintaining public safety and fighting crime require statistical information about the police, crimes and misdemeanours and justice. In the area of public health there is widespread cooperation with researchers.

In 2006 tables were published on the annual and quarterly accounts of the central government, the local government, social security, education, local government budgets, health and welfare, culture, tourism, recreation and sport, justice and security.

The year 2006 A new digital method for the compilation of the financial reports of the local governments was developed in 2004 for gathering and processing the quarterly data. This is laid down as information for third parties in the budget and accounts of the provinces and municipalities. In close cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior, Statistics Netherlands paid a great deal of attention on improving the quality and timeliness of this data supply. The ministry actively governs on the basis of quality checks developed by Statistics Netherlands. By the end of 2006 the quality of 83 percent of the respondents was sufficient and 85 percent reported on time.

The electronic version of *Rechtspraak in Nederland 2004* was published halfway through the year, while the paper version became available in December.

The annual figures of the police statistics on 2005 will become available a little later than planned, namely early 2007. In 2006 in close cooperation with a working party of police representatives, Statistics Netherlands worked on the recovery of the figures of the police statistics.

The annual figures on asylum requests in 2005 were published slightly later than planned in 2006, because the contents of the registration on which these figures were based were not clear enough originally.

At the request of the bureau of the conference for European statisticians Statistics Netherlands wrote a report on Justice and crime, which was on the agenda of the conference of the European Commission for Europe in June 2006.

Validity of economic growth estimates

Performance indicator:

- Validity
Variance between the provisional and definite economic growth rates, expressed as a percentage GDP volume change (at market prices) on the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

Target value:

- Only one quarter a year may have a variance between the provisional and the definite figures of more than 0.75 percentage point

Actual:

- For three quarters in 2003 the variance exceeded 0.75 percentage point (value 2001: one quarter; value 2002: no quarter).
(Definite figures are available more than two and a half years after the end of the reporting year.)

Response to international trade survey

Performance indicator:

- Achieve norm response
Response to the international trade survey

Target value:

- 65%

Actual:

- 75% response in 2006
(value 2004: 69%; value 2005: 73%)

In 2006 the publication *Criminaliteit en rechtshandhaving*, a joint publication of the WODC and Statistics Netherlands on justice and crime was evaluated. This publication should function as a statistical reference work for policy and scientific purposes. The evaluation showed that the book meets its goal.

The covenant with the Ministry of Justice and the Council for the Judiciary led to meetings between Statistics Netherlands and the WODC in 2006. The WODC and Statistics Netherlands wrote a proposal on how to make data available at the neighbourhood and municipal level for the public safety programme: *Veiligheidsprogramma 'Naar een veiliger samenleving'* of the Ministries of the Interior and Justice.

In 2006 figures were compiled about the tax capacity of municipalities on the basis of the law on the valuation of real estate.

The working paper *Zorgrekeningen 1998-2005* was published, which describes an improved method for the compilation of figures about employment in care. Furthermore a preliminary estimate was presented of the expenditure on care by sections of the health and welfare care that had not been described before ('the blanks'). The figures of the care accounts took their place in 2006 in the completely renewed website about the costs of ill health of the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM).

Based on the permanent holiday survey, a new series was compiled in the series on tourism and recreation by Statistics Netherlands and the Netherlands Research Instituut voor Recreatie en Toerisme (NRIT): *Toerisme in Nederland, Vakanties van Nederlanders en Toerisme en recreatie in cijfers*.

The economy

About the main theme Statistics Netherlands describes the Dutch economy through the National Accounts, economic indicators, statistics on international trade, prices, investments and innovation. Information about economic growth and inflation is fundamental for government policy. The models of the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis and De Nederlandsche Bank are fed information from the National Accounts and international trade. The European Commission and the European Central Bank are major users of these statistics on the Dutch economy.

The economic information in StatLine consists of monthly indicators, such as consumer and producer confidence, household consumption, volume changes business sectors and the volume of foreign trade. Then there is the monthly business cycle tracer and the daily online economic monitor. The output of the national accounts concerns the regular set of macro-economic data: economic growth and developments on the job market, supply and use tables, accounts for institutional sectors (including government) and regional accounts. StatLine also includes statistics on price indices, such as the consumer price index (CPI) and the producer price index (PPI) for the manufacturing industry, energy, con-

struction and services. There is also information on international trade in goods and services, innovation, ICT use, and on investments and investment forecasts.

The year 2006 The wishes of the intensive users of the National Accounts, and the economic developments (globalisation, shifting the production of goods and services) and developments in data provisions force Statistics Netherlands to adapt the way the national accounts are calculated. Statistics Netherlands is gaining more access to registers with individual data on private individuals and businesses. By linking these data we get new and better statistics. In 2006 the European and national obligations, client wishes, experiences abroad and automated integration methods were studied, resulting in a draft for a new method of compiling the national accounts. This draft will be finalised in the next few years and implemented in phases.

2006 saw an improvement and extension of the regular output of the statistics on the international trade in goods. For instance, in 2006 the actual transit trade was added (transit trade without administrative actions).

A new method was developed for the statistics on international trade in services for determining the population reference frame based on secondary sources. The result is a larger and better sample survey, which contributes to the quality of the statistical results.

The statistics on travel saw the start of the data gathering of the plastic money flow in outbound travel. This concerns the use of cash machines, credit and debit cards of residents travelling abroad, divided by country and kind of expenditure. Furthermore a study was carried out in 2006 on the structure of the costs of package holidays. The results of the study led to a more reliable categorisation of the expenditure on inbound and outbound package holidays. For inbound travel Statistics Netherlands started using travel data of the main partners Germany, Belgium, UK and France. Data were exchanged with Germany already.

The new edition of the Digital Economy dealt with several new subjects, including the relationship between ICT and productivity, and outsourcing ICT activities to other countries, including China. The latest ICT developments were also addressed.

The first edition of *Het Nederlandse ondernemingsklimaat in cijfers* was published in 2006. It uses some seventy indicators to look at the Dutch business climate and that in nineteen other countries. This was a joint publication with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Dialogic research centre. On 26 April 2006 the Director General of Statistics Netherlands Van der Veen presented the first copy to State Secretary Van Gennip of Economic Affairs.

At the end of 2006 *Milieurekeningen* came out. It is a satellite account to the national accounts that describes the relationship between the economy and the environment. It is possible to make a direct comparison between the monetary

Validity of international trade

Performance indicator:

- **Validity**
Variance between the provisional and definite international trade figures (monthly EU import and export and non EU import and export; in total it therefore concerns 48 variance percentages)

Target value:

- No more than 20% of the variances may exceed 4%

Actual:

- 2% overruns of the tolerated variance in 2005
(value 2003: 12.5 %; value 2004: 4%)
(The definite figures become available more than six months after the reporting year.)

and physical flows of the environmental-economic system, based on these environmental accounts. The figures from the environmental accounts contribute to a transparent explanation of the relationship between economic activities and their external effects on the environment.

Reduction of the administrative burden On 23 January 2006 Statistics Netherlands and De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB) signed an agreement to cooperate in compiling the sector accounts. Statistics Netherlands takes on several obligations from DNB to supply data to the European Central Bank, while DNB extends its own surveys with questions for Statistics Netherlands in several areas. This leads to a more efficient way to meet the statistical requirements and reduces the administrative burden. Also DNB and Statistics Netherlands are harmonising their processing and working methods so as to guarantee the quality of the statistical information. For this purpose many employees of Statistics Netherlands and DNB were introduced to the other's production processes during brief exchange period. The cooperation is secured by regular meetings at the director's and management levels. The cooperation between DNB and Statistics Netherlands serves as an example for other countries.

The environment

About the main theme Environmental statistics describe the pressure on the environment caused by human activities and the cost made to protect nature and the landscape. The information is used for the policy of the Ministries of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality (LNV) and Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) and for periodic reports of the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency.

The statistics on nature aim to provide a coherent picture of the biodiversity in the Netherlands and changes in it due to natural fluctuations and human influences. These changes are linked to relevant social phenomena whenever possible. Species protected under the law on flora and fauna, the guidelines on habitats and on birds.

Recent information about the environment and nature are shown on the CBS website and in the *Milieu en Natuurcompendium*, a publication of the Netherlands Environmental Assessment agency and Statistics Netherlands. The tables on the environment refer to environmental pollution and costs. In 2006 a number of new tables on the environment, environmental pollution and the natural environment were published.

The year 2006 In the second and fourth quarters of 2006 data on the production and processing of waste in the Netherlands to Eurostat were supplied due to the European regulation on statistics on waste. Some of the data are gathered by Statistics Netherlands, some by other institutes, particularly SenterNovem.

As of 2006 the nature statistics of Statistics Netherlands are continued as a project commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture. This means these statistics meet the new priorities target of the multi-annual programme.

Reduction of the administrative burden Statistics Netherlands and SenterNovem studied if it was possible to use the files of the notification of industrial and hazardous waste registered at the *Landelijk Meldpunt Afvalstoffen* for the statistics on industrial waste.

Regional statistics

About the main theme Regional statistics gather statistical information per region, such as provinces, municipalities, and neighbourhoods. The information is widely used for local and regional policies, for instance on depressed neighbourhoods. The regional statistics are also a valuable source for marketing, and form the basis for local government financing by the state through the municipal and provincial funds and the work and welfare fund (Gemeentefonds, Provinciefonds, Fonds Werk en Bijstand).

There is information in StatLine on the use of physical space, statistical information per region and on the how the Netherlands is divided in terms of regional government and administrative units.

The year 2006 The file on land use: *Bodemgebruik 2003* was completed in 2006. In this digital map the geometry of the land use of the Dutch territory is described with close to half a million objects. The file is a unique source of figures about the developments in the use of space and is made available to others for analysis as a geographical information system.

The StatLine publication Regional key figures of the Netherlands was steadily extended in 2006, increasing the number of characteristics from 230 in June 2005 to 290 in December 2006.



Yvonne van Spijk, administrator at the supermarket 'De twee Gebroeders van Venlo' in Venlo

Five minutes of my time

'Every month I fill in an online questionnaire on the retail trade. Statistics Netherlands mails us a link with which we can link to their site directly. So you don't have to search things on the site. This makes it much easier to fill it in and it just takes five minutes of my time.'



Statistics in practice

Statistic Netherlands and the media

Coverage of press releases

Performance indicator:

- ▶ Extent of use of statistical information, Coverage of press releases (press releases quotes in a set of daily news papers)

Target value:

- ▶ Maintaining a coverage of at least 70%

Actual:

- ▶ In 2006 the coverage was 58% (value 2004: 71%; value 2005: 62%)

Timeliness of press releases

Performance indicator:

- ▶ A timely supply of statistics
Percentage released according to the agenda for press releases

Target value:

- ▶ Annual growth rate of 1% point based on 75% in 2003

Actual:

- ▶ 90% according to the planning in 2006 (value 2004: 91%; value 2005: 95%)

Statistics Netherlands is quoted nearly every day in the newspapers, on the radio or on television. Articles in weeklies and monthlies are often illustrated with figures coming from Statistics Netherlands. In 2006 Statistics Netherlands published 120 press releases and 202 webmagazine articles. Spokespeople of Statistics Netherlands were on Dutch radio and TV news close to 400 times (NOS-journaal, RTL-Nieuws, RTLZ-nieuws, Radio 1 journaal or BNR Nieuwsradio). Subjects that scored well varied from economic growth and unemployment to population forecasts and the many Dutch people who died due to the 2006 heat wave. The target value for media coverage of the press releases was not met, mainly due to developments in the media. The methods currently used are no longer adequate, so the question is how Statistics Netherlands can raise its media profile.

In 2006 Statistics Netherlands organised five press conferences: on the digital economy, the Dutch economy, the regional population forecast, the Dutch economy in 2005, and the population forecast 2006–2050.

During the press conference on the digital economy the Director General G. van der Veen presented the first copies of the book to Minister Brinkhorst of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Mr. Hoedemaker, director at TNO. The first copy of *De Nederlandse Economie 2005* was presented to minister De Geus of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

The Director General also presented the first copy of *Het Nederlandse ondernemingsklimaat in cijfers* to State Secretary of Economic Affairs Van Gennip at the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Ministry of Social Affairs organised a congress on emancipation in which J. Latten, spokesperson of Statistics Netherlands, delivered a paper. On the occasion, the first copy of *De emancipatiemonitor*, a joint publication of the Social and Cultural Planning bureau and Statistics Netherlands was presented to Mr Licher of the Directorate for the coordination of emancipation policy.

J. Latten also delivered a paper at the Ministry of Justice on the integration of people with foreign backgrounds, in the presence of Minister Verdonk. J. Latten was further invited by the cabinet to lecture on integration and segregation. Minister De Geus asked M.Vergeer, spokesperson for Statistics Netherlands, to

give the speech he originally held during the presentation for the press on Nederlandse economie 2005 before the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

CBS website and StatLine

The CBS website offers free access to all statistics produced by Statistics Netherlands. In 2006 there were over 6.7 million visits to the website. The use of the website continues to grow. In the fourth quarter of 2006 the number of visits was even up by 44 percent on the year before.

The volume and the use of the StatLine database increased. The number of tables is up by 12 percent reaching 1,697. The number of cells in the database is now 4.8 billion. The number of tables consulted increased from 7.1 million in 2005 to 8.2 million in 2006.

In order to optimise the use of the website and StatLine, other bureaus have carried out user surveys and expert reviews. Statistics Netherlands has also carried out its own user surveys and reviews, which are currently being analysed.

An inventory was made of the functional wishes and demands for on-line web applications that have yet to be built, Statistics Netherlands in your neighbourhood. This application allows visitors to access a selection of regional neighbourhood data in a user-friendly way.

Centre for policy statistics

The centre for policy statistics helps departments and planning bureaus in finding, using and compiling the necessary information for the preparation and evaluation of policies. More and more users are now well aware of the centre's existence. In 2006 studies and commissions were carried out for the Ministries of Finance, Social Affairs and Employment, and the Interior. Furthermore commissions were carried out for the council and the centre for work and income, the audit's office, and the city of Rotterdam. Eleven reports were published via the CBS website. The job market and social security were the main research topics.

Micro data and on-site facilities

Since September 2006 it is possible to carry out remote access analyses on the micro data of Statistics Netherlands. Ten institutes have so far implemented these facilities, and by the end of 2006 sixteen research projects were active. A crucial element in making micro data accessible is adequate documentation so researchers can analyse the micro data on their own. In 2006 extra efforts were made so a hundred files could be added to the catalogue of available files.

Visits to the CBS website

Year	Number of visits (x 1.000)
2001	2,004
2002	2,516
2003	3,171
2004	3,718
2005	4,706
2006	6,743

Use of StatLine

Performance indicator:

- Use of statistical information
Use of StatLine

Target value:

- 20% annual growth rate (based on 2 million requests in 2003)

Actual:

- In 2006 there were 8.2 million requests (up over 20% on 2005, but new measuring method)
(value 2004: 66%; value 2005: 70%)

StatLine punctuality

Performance indicator:

- Punctual supply of statistics
Percentage of StatLine publications supplied as planned

Target value:

- 100% supplied according to plan

Actual:

- 93% according to plan in 2006
(value 2004: 86%; value 2005: 85%)

Statistics Netherlands in parliamentary documents

Performance indicator:

- Use of statistical information
Number of times Statistics Netherlands is quoted in parliamentary documents

Target value:

- 1% annual growth rate
(based on 693 quotes in 2004)

Actual:

- 17% growth rate in 2006 (808)
(value 2005: 13%)

Customer satisfaction

Performance indicator:

- ▶ Customer satisfaction
User survey

Target value:

- ▶ Positive opinions based on a survey among users

Actual:

- ▶ customer satisfaction index: 7.2 in 2006
(value 2005: 7.1)

Infoservice

All questions about statistical information, figures on the Netherlands and information on Europe, are answered by the Infoservice. In 2006 the Infoservice gave information some 28.9 thousand times, of which 19.7 thousand by telephone and 9.2 thousand in writing. This is a 17 percent drop on 2005, caused mainly by the fact that more people are using the CBS website and StatLine. In 2006 the Infoservice answered 816 times question about statistical information on Europe, which is a 27 percent increase on 2005.

Customer satisfaction

In 2005 and 2006 surveys were held among the respondents and data users of Statistics Netherlands.

The survey among respondents focused on the respondents of the labour force survey and the production statistics. The user survey focused on customers of the Infoservice. The index for customer satisfaction, the general rating based on the two surveys, for 2006 was 7.2. This is slightly higher than in 2005 when the score was 7.1.

The international context

European code of practice for statistics

The European code of practice is set up to guarantee the independence of the national European statistical institutes (NSIs) and improve the quality, reliability and timeliness of the figures on government finances of the member states. In 2006 a small team of international professionals studied to what extent the Netherlands meets the principles of the European code of practice.

For this purpose they interviewed managers and the workforce of Statistics Netherlands, users of the statistics at the Ministries, planning bureaus and the press, and key partners like De Nederlandsche Bank. The Dutch and Czech statistics bureaus were the first to be assessed this way.

The Netherlands scored well in most aspects in the peer review, and even received the best practice mention on two accounts: independence and statistical confidentiality. Recommendations for improvement were made in quality care, improved communication with respondents and dissemination policy. Measures have been taken to actually improve these issues. The ambition is to get best practice in all aspects of the peer review. The reports of the peer reviews are published on Eurostat's website.

International posts

In November 2006 the Director General of Statistics Netherlands G. van der Veen was appointed chair of the Partnership Group by his European colleagues. The group prepares the meetings of the Statistical Programme Committee (SPC), where the 27 Directors General of the NSIs in the EU meet under the Director General of Eurostat. The Partnership Group functions as an executive committee that sets up the SPC meetings at the strategic level, develops ideas and proposals and prepares the decision-making process. The Partnership Group currently has eight members: the chair plus the Directors General of Eurostat, Germany, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway and Slovenia. Van der Veen will be chairing the Group for two years.

Apart from the Partnership Group there are three task forces active in the European statistical programme. The taskforce Basic Legal Framework is chaired by A. van Krimpen ('International relations officer' at Statistics Netherlands).

In 2006 the Committee for Monetary, Financial and Balance of payments statistics (CMFB) appointed the head of National Accounts P. van de Ven of Statistics Netherlands to be its vice chair as of 1 January 2007. The CMFB consists of representatives of the statistical institutes and the national central banks of the Economic and Monetary Union, and plays a key role in assessing procedures dealing with excessive deficits.

Extending the statistical programme within the framework of Europe

In 2006 three regulations came into force that require an adaptation of the production of statistics by Statistics Netherlands. The adaptations will not increase the burden caused by the surveys. Apart from the three Regulations another 28 committee regulations came into force.

- Regulation (EC) no. 1365/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on statistics of goods transport on inland waters, revoking guideline 80/1119/EEG of the Council;
- Regulation (EC) no. 1921/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 on the submission of statistical data on landings of fishery products in Member States and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1382/91
- Regulation (EC) no. 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 2 and amending Regulation (EEG) no. 3037/90 as well as certain EC Regulations on specific statistical domains.

Furthermore in 2006 there were 10 draft regulations on the table in the European Parliament and the Council. These will come into force in 2007 and beyond.

DGINS in Krakow

On 20 and 21 September 2006 there was a conference of the Directors General of the national statistical institutes of the EU member states in Krakow (Poland). The title of the conference Making the system work indicates that the conference aimed to generate ideas on how to improve the European Statistical System, the joint system of European and national statistical institutes. Statistics Netherlands presented a paper 'Living apart together, what are the major issues of being a part of the ESS?'

Information exchange and technical assistance

Statistics Netherlands provides technical assistance to several countries through the exchange of information, advice and courses. The assistance is financed by the European Commission. A limited number of themes is selected, including national accounts, the methodology in surveys on individuals and households,

business registers and business statistics, social dynamics and integration. In 2006 Statistics Netherlands received seven delegations and visited five statistical bureaus including Lithuania, Turkey, Suriname and the Russian Federation.

In addition to the technical assistance and participation in international committees, there are other types of contacts with foreign colleagues, such as visits to Statistics Netherlands and vice versa or organising international meeting. In 2006 Statistics Netherlands organised a successful course National Accounts in Practice. In May 2006, at the request of the United Nations, there was the Conference on Water Accounting for Integrated Water Resource Management in which 60 participants from all over the world took part.

Foreign visits to Statistics Netherlands in 2006:

- German Bureau of Statistics (Destatis)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
- Higher Institute of Labour Studies, Belgium
- Labour inspectorate, Lithuania
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonia
- Eurostat
- Statistics New Zealand
- Singapore Department of Statistics
- Rumanian delegation
- Statistics Sweden
- Embassy of Macedonia
- Embassy of the Ukraine.

Data deliveries to Eurostat

In 2006 the number registered data deliveries to Eurostat increased by 4 percent to 754, of which 93 percent was delivered on time. Almost all data supplied were delivered through a web application. This makes Statistics Netherlands the first in the field in Europe.

Delivery on time to Eurostat

Performance indicator:

- Delivering statistics on time
Percentage of deliveries on time to Eurostat

Target value:

- Growth of 1% point a year based on 80% in 2003

Actual:

- 93% delivered on time in 2006
(value 2004: 90%; value 2005 86%)



Simone Krouwer, manager at the temp office 'Watch Out' in Poeldijk

I do have some tips for Statistics Netherlands

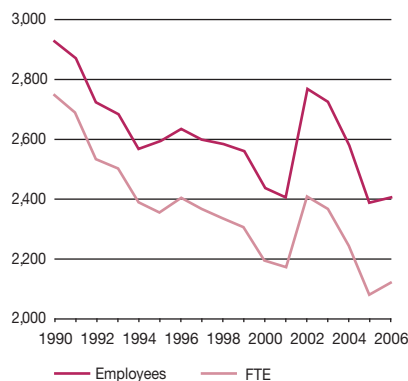
'I would appreciate a personal approach when we are first introduced to the statistical bureau. I would also appreciate it if Statistics Netherlands could clearly explain why we have to fill in various questionnaires.'



Personnel

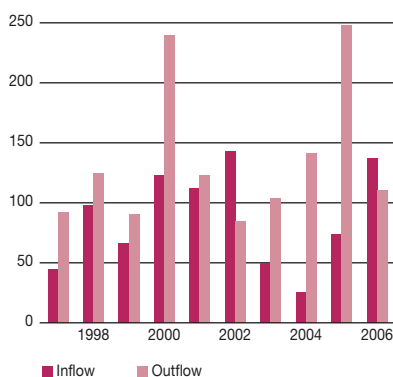
Workforce

**Staffing level
(On 31 December 2006)**



The chart shows that in 2002 the field survey staff was regarded as part of the staffing level, whereas this staff has not been regarded as 'inflow' in the chart 'Inflow and outflow'

Inflow and outflow (in FTE)



The number of employees at the end of 2006 was 2,402 (at the end of 2005, Statistics Netherlands employed 2,382 people). Nearly 64 percent of employees were paid in salary scale 9 and higher, as against 61 percent at the end of last year. Staff upgrading picks up after a year of stagnation.

At the end of last year, 874 employees of Statistics Netherlands were women, i.e. 36 percent of the total workforce. At the end of 2006, the number of women in high positions was 189, i.e. 22.2 percent of all employees in higher positions (salary scale 11 and higher). The corresponding figures for 2005 were 174 and 21.6 percent.

The average age was 47.1 years (see also the graph 'average age personnel') and is equal to the average age over the year 2005.

The sickness absence rate fell in 2006 by half a percent to 5.7 percent (see graph 'sickness absence rate'). For the fifth year running, the rate dropped. In 2001, the sickness absence rate stood at 9.0 percent. The rate for Statistics Netherlands still exceeds the norm set at 4.9 percent in 2006. With an annual average of 1.7 times, the reporting frequency dropped marginally.

At the end of last year, 32.4 percent of employees worked part-time, as opposed to 24.0 percent at the end of 2000.

The average length of service at Statistics Netherlands was 17.9 years. Approximately one quarter of employees (24 percent) were working less than 5 years for Statistics Netherlands; more than half have worked for Statistic Netherlands for more than two decades.

Expressed in FTEs, the number of employees totalled 2,116 at the end of 2006 (2,075 at the end of 2005). The annual report includes the average number of employees in 2006, which stood at 2,112 FTEs. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 2,203.

HR policy

In 2006, the Action plan Strategic Workforce Planning was formulated and started up. The result of this action plan must be that Statistics Netherlands has enough competent staff available at all times. The plan involves a series of coherent, concrete actions and steps which must be taken to promote the intake of new employees and rotation of present staff.

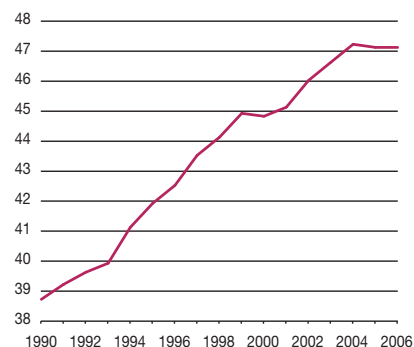
Statistics Netherlands focuses on the selection of potential (higher) management candidates. Early 2006, the search for talented potential managers was resumed. Division directors could submit in-house candidates they considered suitable. In 2006, recruitment of new employees was a top priority. Various campaigns were launched in the media and ads were published in national newspapers, staff magazines and the free morning papers Metro and Spits. In these ads, Statistics Netherlands invites graduates from HBO institutions and universities to apply. Additionally, a special vacancy page was introduced on the website. Diploma policy. Statistics Netherlands has introduced a new policy to the effect that jobs which require a certain level of education are open to outside candidates, only if they have actually graduated in a relevant subject. These strict requirements do not apply to in-house candidates, but they must exhibit potential suitability. Statistics Netherlands attributes great value to upward mobility opportunities and seeks to put the right person in the right place. The new policy with respect to the vacancies supports this ambition.

The *Wet Verbetering Poortwachter* deals with sickness prevention and reintegration of the employee and a swift return to the workplace. The act lays down the obligations of employers in a strict, chronological order. To facilitate the application, Statistics Netherlands has bought a software programme which enables managers to take timely action. This programme was made ready for use and implemented in the autumn of 2006.

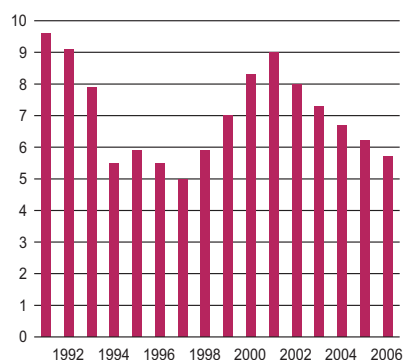
Salary administration outsourced

As from 1 January 2007, an external bureau, LogicaCMG, has been contracted to take care of the salary administration of Statistics Netherlands. A salary administration system called PASO is used, which also produces the salary specification details sent to all employees each month. In 2006, a lot of preparatory work has been done to implement the new up-to-date system.

Average age personnel



Sickness absence rates

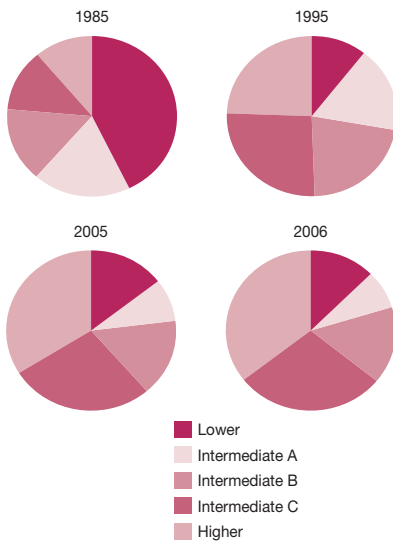


Participation

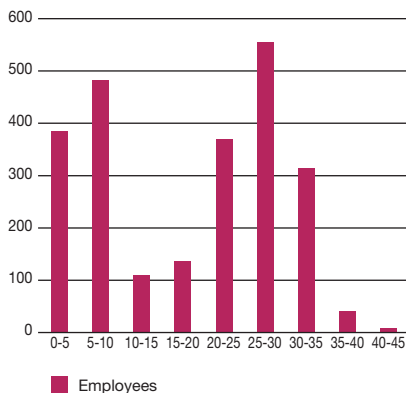
Important subjects of discussion between management and employees council (OR) in 2006:

- Long-term plan and long-term vision (MJB). The current state of affairs with respect to the long-term plan and the MJB has been subject of discussion several times.
- Structure of the top management level of Statistics Netherlands. The OR has approved the reduction of the Executive Board from three to two persons (Director General and Deputy Director General).
- Various reorganisation and transformation processes. The OR has advised on various reorganisation proposals and transformation processes underway in parts of the organisation. The OR also advises on the creation of the division Methodology and Quality. In most cases the Executive Board adopted the advices and suggestions put forward by the OR.
- The Technology and Methodology division (TNM) was split up into a division for IT services (ITS) and for methodology and quality control (DMK).
- The Social Plan and reorganisations. Reorganisations will be implemented in compliance with the Social Plan.
- Evaluation of the fieldwork organisation. The OR has formulated a number of questions based on evaluation of the fieldwork organisation. Most questions were dealt with in a satisfactory manner. A moot point is the request submitted to the OR for a second opinion with respect to job rating within the fieldwork organisation.
- Simultaneous internal and external recruitment of staff. After having consulted independent sources, the OR has agreed to a proposal, submitted by the Executive Board, to set up an internal and external recruitment procedure for certain positions within the organisation.
- Output control and discontinuation of registration of working hours. With the consent of the OR, further implementation of output control has lead to abolishment of the working hours registration system. Problems related to abolishment of the registration system have been solved. A teleworking pilot project was started up. The technical test was successful and several sections currently participate in a test run. Overall introduction is projected for 2007 and 2008.
- Set-up of the flex pool. A different set-up of the flex pool is currently being considered.
- Evaluation of the diploma policy. No inconsistencies were found after the new qualification policy was introduced. The new qualification policy stipulates that in-house candidates must exhibit potential suitability.
- Revision and implementation of the job rating system. The OR has advised on the implementation of a new job rating system and the introduction of a competence management system. The Executive Board has accepted this suggestion.

Staff percentages by salary scale



Duration of service in years




- Integrity policy. After consultation with the OR, an integrity manual was set up. It contains all relevant, prevailing articles from the Civil Servants Act, circular letters from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations and a number of Statistics Netherlands-specific measures. The integrity policy model has been discussed organisation-wide.
- The life course savings scheme, compensation for business trips and receptions, bonuses for recruitment of new employees. Several schemes and compensations were adjusted or introduced.

The following subjects were high on the agenda during consultation with the Occupational Health and Safety Services (ARBO) committee:

- Relocation of both Statistics Netherlands offices to new premises and the various aspects thereof for Voorburg and Heerlen, for instance the recommendations regarding safety, the number of persons per room and the internal layout.
- The job of prevention coordinator. The Executive Board and the ARBO committee have reached an agreement with respect to the role of the prevention coordinator. Prevention coordinators will have direct access to the Executive Board and will operate outside the regular hierarchy.
- The job satisfaction survey. The results from the fourth job satisfaction survey were discussed with the ARBO committee. These results will be evaluated organisation-wide.
- The periodical health survey (PGO). An agreement was reached with the ARBO committee to the effect that employees of Statistics Netherlands can go to a nearby regional hospital for the (voluntary) PGO.
- Evaluation of ARBO Unie services. As a result of the evaluation of services provided by the ARBO Unie, several proposals were submitted to adjust the contract for 2007. The ARBO committee agreed. One of the proposals concerned an extension of consultation hours of the ARBO Unie doctor.
- Workplace concepts in the new locations. Executive Board and ARBO committee concur that the proposals for the workplace concepts in the new locations should be discussed in detail organisation-wide.
- Employees in the high-risk category to be scanned for RSI. Employees in the TNM division were scanned for RSI. Following the results, the ARBO committee submitted a proposal to scan other employees in the high-risk category in 2007.

Staffing level
(On 31 December 2006; number of employees and fte)





Martin Hofmeijer, financial manager at
Damsté Advocaten in Enschede:

Clear and consise questionnaires

‘Statistics Netherlands’ questionnaires are clear and consise. However sometimes it is hard to generate the required data from the software systems. The data we supply to Statistics Netherlands are processed by them and can be found on their website. In practice, however, respondents don’t always ‘make it to the website’.



Balance sheet as at 31 December 2006 (before proposed profit appropriation)

in thousands of euros

<i>in thousands of euros</i>	31 December 2006		31 December 2005	
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets				
ICT equipment	3.937		5.296	
Machines and equipment	906		1.148	
Other fixed assets	510		731	
		5.353		7.175
CURRENT ASSETS				
Inventories				
Work in progress	1.069		-135	
		1.069		-135
Accounts receivable				
Ministry of Economic Affairs	19.680		23.190	
Receivables	1.517		1.342	
Other receivables	2.088		1.005	
		23.285		25.537
Cash and cash equivalents				
Cash and cash equivalents		64.152		52.953
Total assets		93.859		85.530
LIABILITIES				
Equity				
Equalisation reserve	-4.946		-8.906	
Result current year	10.758		3.960	
		5.812		-4.946
Provisions				
Reorganisation 2006	594		0	
Reorganisation 2005	8.305		11.260	
Reorganisation 2004	15.015		18.651	
Reorganisation 2000	3.258		4.959	
Unemployment obligations	1.984		2.100	
Self insurance risk	2.075		1.375	
Long-service awards	2.028		0	
Eurostat	832		265	
		34.091		38.610
Current liabilities				
ICT intensification	20.825		24.143	
Taxes and social insurance contributions due	4.420		5.411	
Other liabilities	28.711		22.312	
		53.956		51.866
Total liabilities		93.859		85.530

Profit and Loss Account 2006

in thousands of euros

<i>in thousands of euros</i>	Actual 2006		Budget 2006		Actual 2005	
REVENUES						
Net turnover						
Ministry of Economic Affairs	166.562		162.991		164.467	
Revenues from third parties	10.448		7.255		9.478	
		177.010		170.246		173.945
Change in work in progress		1.204		1.409		417
Other revenues		1.433		1.282		854
Total revenues		179.647		172.937		175.216
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Wages and salaries	107.360		104.091		105.432	
Pension and social security charges	18.362		22.868		22.126	
Depreciation tangible fixed assets	4.565		5.365		4.583	
Other operating expenses	41.002		40.763		40.370	
Total operating expenses		171.289		173.087		172.511
Operating result		8.358		-150		2.705
Financial income and expenses						
Interest income		2.400		700		1.255
Result for the financial year		10.758		550		3.960

Cash Flow Statement 2006

in thousands of euros

	2006		2005	
Result for the financial year	10.758		3.960	
Depreciation	4.565		4.583	
Changes in provisions	-4.519		2.222	
Change in working capital (excluding cash and cash equivalents and short term bankoverdrafts)	3.138		5.193	
Cash flow from operating activities		13.942		15.958
Investments	-2.743		-2.003	
Cash flow from investing activities		-2.743		-2.003
Cash flow from financing activities		0		0
Changes in cash and cash equivalents		11.199		13.955

General

Statistics Netherlands, with registered offices in Voorburg and Heerlen, has been an autonomous agency since 2004. The Statistics Netherlands Act lays down its tasks, powers and operating method.

Statistics Netherlands has two management bodies, the Director-General and the Central Commission for Statistics (CCS).

The annual report of Statistics Netherlands is drawn up in accordance with the Statistics Netherlands Act and the agreements with the Ministry of Economic Affairs on the annual account laid down in the controlling guidelines or sturingsafspraken. The annual account of Statistics Netherlands is drawn up in accordance with title 9, Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Thanks to the result of 10.8 million euro in 2006, Statistics Netherlands now has a positive equity for the first time since it became an autonomous agency. The actual result is larger than the budgeted result thanks to greater wage and price compensation, greater revenues from work carried out on commission, higher interest and lower depreciation.

Financial terms

It was agreed upon with the Ministry of Economic Affairs that the financial obligations from the period before 3 January 2004 will be settled by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The actual expenditure on these obligations by Statistics Netherlands is repaid by the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs has provided long-term financing in the form of an interest-free credit of 50 million euro to meet the social security cost incurred as a result from the tasks imposed by the first Balkenende government, the future ICT budget, and the priority change (Herprioritering). If the credit need were to exceed 50 million euro, it is subject to consultation between Statistics Netherlands, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Finance.

The risk agreements between Statistics Netherlands and the Ministry of Economic Affairs stipulate that relocation Statistics Netherlands should not pose budget problems for Statistics Netherlands. Agreements were made with the Ministry of Economic Affairs in 2006 for any extra structural costs in 2008-2013. To finance the relocation, Statistics Netherlands took out a 30 million euro loan as of 3 December 2007.

Accounting Principles

The basis to value fixed assets and liabilities and results are based on historic costs. Unless otherwise specified the fixed assets and liabilities are the nominal values. Revenues and costs are attributed to the period to which they refer, while losses are taken as soon as they are foreseen.

Unless otherwise specified the amounts in the annual account are expressed in thousands of euros.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

De tangible fixed assets are values against acquisition price or the purchase price lowered by a straight-line depreciation based on expected useful life. Owing to the planned relocation, accelerated depreciation is applied to certain assets because of their shorter useful lives. The table below shows the depreciation rates per asset category.

Tangible fixed assets	Depreciation period
ICT equipment	3 years
Machines and equipment	10 years
Other fixed operating assets	5 years

Current assets

Work in progress

The valuation of work in progress is based upon the production costs. Profits are taken based upon the percentage of completion method. Expected losses are deducted right away.

Accounts receivable

A provision for bad debt is deducted from the receivables.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand is carried at face value. Unless specified elsewhere these are at the free disposal of Statistics Netherlands.

Provisions

A provision is formed to cover the best possible estimates of the costs of the current reorganisation, the provisions for liability for benefits under the unemployment insurance act, self insurance risk, provisions for jubilees and Eurostat carried at face value.

Accounting principles for the determination of result

Revenues and costs are determined on the bases of historic costs.

Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement is drawn up in accordance with the indirect method, which means that in order to reflect the cash flows, the result for the financial year is adjusted for items which do not result in any receipts or outlay in the financial year, and for movements in provisions and working capital.

Notes to the balance sheet as at 31 December 2006

Tangible fixed assets

	ICT equipment	Machines and equipment	Other tangible fixed assets	Total
Situation as at 31-12-2005				
Purchase value	21.636	2.401	2.057	26.094
Depreciation	-16.340	-1.253	-1.326	-18.919
Accounting value as at 31-12-2005	5.296	1.148	731	7.175
Changes in book value				
Investments	2.848	-132	35	2.751
Disposals	-9	-	-	-9
Depreciation	-4.227	-123	-214	-4.564
Reclassification	29	13	-42	0
Changes in book value	-1.309	-242	-221	-1.822
Situation as at 31-12-2006				
Purchase value	24.519	1.995	2.048	28.562
Accumulated depreciation	-20.582	-1.089	-1.538	-23.209
Accounting value 31-12-2006	3.937	906	510	5.353

To secure the continuity investments in ICT were made in 2006.
Office furniture is accounted under other tangible fixed assets.

Inventories

Work in progress

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Activated costs	5.581	1.337
Invoiced instalments	-4.362	-1.422
Provision for expected losses	-150	-50
Work in progress	1.069	-135

Work in progress includes projects generating revenues and crossing over into the following year(s). The activated costs are minus the instalments that have already been invoiced and minus provisions for expected loss. On 31 December 2006 there were more projects in progress than in 2005.

Accounts receivable

Ministry of Economic Affairs

The amount receivable from the Ministry of Economic Affairs is made up of the following:

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Reorganisation 2000	4.680	5.190
Reorganisation 2004	15.000	18.000
Total	19.680	23.190

The Ministry of Economic Affairs has agreed to contribute a total of 21 million euro for the reorganisation of 2004, payable in seven yearly instalments (2005-2011) of 3 million euro. So at the end of 2006 15 million euro was still receivable.

In 2006 the Ministry provided 510 thousand euro to finance the 2000 reorganisation.

Receivables

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Receivables	1.836	1.701
Bad debt receivables	-319	-359
Total	1.517	1.342

Other receivables

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Prepayments	780	372
Advances paid to employees	97	83
Other	1.211	550
Total	2.088	1.005

'Prepayments' includes various maintenance contracts; while 'other' is made up of receivables for which no invoice has yet been sent.

Cash and cash equivalents

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Bank balances	64.122	52.929
Cash and cash equivalents	30	24
Total	64.152	52.953

The increase in liquidities of more than 11 million euro is mainly due to the 2006 result. The cash flow statement shows the changes in liquidities.

Equity

	Equalisation reserve	Retained earnings	Total
Balance as at 31-12-2004	0	-8.906	-8.906
Allocation of result for 2004	-8.906	8.906	0
Result for 2005	0	3.960	3.960
Balance as at 31-12-2005	-8.906	3.960	-4.946
Allocation of result for 2005	3.960	-3.960	0
Result for 2006	0	10.758	10.758
Balance as at 31-12-2006	-4.946	10.758	5.812

On 31 December 2006 Statistics Netherlands had an equity of 5.8 million euro; made up of the results of 2004, 2005 and 2006. By adding the 10.8 million euro result of the year 2006, the equity is positive for the first time since Statistics Netherlands became an autonomous agency.

Provisions

	Eurostat								Total
	Long-service awards								
	Self insurance risk								
	Unemployment obligations								
	Reorganisation 2000								
	Reorganisation 2004								
	Reorganisation 2005								
	Reorganisation 2006								
Balance as at 31-12-2005	0	11.260	18.651	4.959	2.100	1.375	0	265	38.610
Additions in 2006	594	0	0	0	83	700	2.028	567	3.972
Withdrawal in 2006	0	-2.586	-3.208	-602	-199	0	0	0	-6.595
Released in 2006	0	-369	-428	-1.099	0	0	0	0	-1.896
Balance as at 31-12-2006	594	8.305	15.015	3.258	1.984	2.075	2.028	832	34.091

Reorganisation 2004, 2005 and 2006

The provisions are formed to cover the social costs for employees who have to change jobs, either because of the Balkenende I cuts, the change in statistical priorities, efficiency projects or the ICT-future budget, those leaving under the Remkesregeling, and to cover the costs of the other ongoing reorganisations. The provisions are based on estimated and forecasts obligations to the workforce. The obligations consist of regular salary costs during the re-employment period of the employees, and agreed future benefits to ex-employees.

The table below shows the expected terms of the obligations occurred for reorganisation purposes.

	2007	2008–2011	2012 onwards	Total
Reorganisation 2006	41	178	375	594
Reorganisation 2005	1.275	3.093	3.937	8.305
Reorganisation 2004	2.839	8.705	3.471	15.015
Total	4.155	11.976	7.783	23.914

Reorganisation 2000

The provisions formed to cover the costs of re-employment candidates of the reorganisation of 2000, who were not dismissed prior to 3 January 2004. The Ministry of Economic Affairs has promised about 10.8 million euro to cover the outflow costs and the costs for the temporary extra ICT staff. The outflow costs are the total personnel costs during the re-employment 18 month period plus the redundancy and other benefits payable by Statistics Netherlands.

The table below shows the expected terms of the reorganisation of 2000.

	2007	2008–2011	2012 onwards	Total
Reorganisation 2000	650	953	1.655	3.258

Unemployment obligations

The provisions for benefits under the unemployment insurance act was formed to cover payments to ex-employees.

The table below shows the expected terms of the unemployment obligations.

	2007	2008–2011	2012 onwards	Total
Unemployment obligations	251	686	1.047	1.984

Self insurance risk

The controlling guidelines (sturingsafspraken) between the Minister of Economic Affairs, the DG of Statistics Netherlands and the CCS stipulate that Statistics Netherlands may form a self insurance risk provision. The risk analysis when Statistics Netherlands became independent stipulates that this provision may be formed to cover damage to office contents and for public liability. Based on the risk analysis in 2006 the amount of 0.7 million euro was added to the provision.

Official anniversaries

This provision concerns future obligations for 12.5, 25 or 40 year jubilees.

Eurostat

This provision has been formed for a possible claim by Eurostat relating to final settlements which are not in line with the conditions to which they are subject.

Current liabilities

ICT intensification

As part of the resolution of the long-term issues facing Statistics Netherlands the Ministry of Economic Affairs made an advance contribution for ICT enhancement. In 2006 this went as follows:

	ICT intensification
Balance as at 31-12-2005	24.143
Withdrawn	3.318
Balance as at 31-12-2006	20.825

Taxes and social insurance contributions due

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Income tax payable	2.171	3.231
Pension premiums	1.535	1.680
Social insurance contributions	714	500
Total	4.420	5.411

The decrease in the income tax payable on 31 December 2006 was because in December 2005 there was a settlement with employees of the employer's three months contribution for medical expenses insurance.

Other liabilities

	31-12-2006	31-12-2005
Expenses payable	6.984	5.211
Holiday allowance payable	4.182	4.281
Creditors	4.399	3.124
Advances received	3.342	2.637
Holidays entitlement	2.814	2.435
Pre-invoiced turnover	5.566	1.372
ICT capacity to be spent	925	1.110
Year-end payment	308	739
Other payables	191	1.403
Total	28.711	22.312

The expenses payable are mainly periodical costs, such as invoices for energy, for which the invoices had not yet been received on 31 December.

The advances received, from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, are for relocation costs that will be made in 2007.

The pre-invoiced turnover consists of turnover running into 2007 and the Blaise licences.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs has made funds available for temporary extra ICT capacity for the 2000 reorganisation. The amount that remains to be spent is included under 'ICT capacity to be set in'.

The year-end payment concerns the amount reserved in December 2006, payable in 2007.

Notes to the profit and loss account 2006

Net turnover

The net turnover is the total of:

- the contribution of the Ministry of Economic Affairs;
- revenues from third parties;
- changes in work in progress;
- other revenues.

Contribution Ministry of Economic Affairs

	Actual 2006	Budget 2006	Actual 2005
Budgeted contribution	172.548	167.251	168.724
Repayment of payable to the Ministry of Economic Affairs regarding reorganisation 2004	-3.000	-3.000	-3.000
Contribution to reallocation office	-2.500	0	0
Funds to spent regarding reorganisation 2000	-510	-510	-779
Funds to spent regarding ICT capacity	185	-750	-478
Other changes	-161	0	0
Total	166.562	162.991	164.467

The contribution of the Ministry of Economic Affairs refers to the payments into the budget by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Statistics Netherlands receives this contribution on the basis of the Multi-annual programme 2004-2008. At the end of this period the work programme must be implemented. In any year the contribution for parts that are not implemented are transferred to the next year. If the work is not carried out at all, then the contribution will have to be repaid to the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The contributions for reallocation and for ICT that still have to be spent are entered as debt in the balance.

In the 2006 budget the provision was lower than was actually realised, the difference is mainly due to wage and price compensation.

Revenues from third parties

The table below provides information on the revenues from third parties by region.

	Actual 2006	Budget 2006	Actual 2005
Netherlands	6.527	-	5.458
EU countries	2.874	-	2.415
Other countries	1.047	-	1.605
Total	10.448	7.255	9.478

The revenues from third parties includes accounts of invoices for jobs done. Included are jobs to which central government has made a specific financial contribution.

In the budget the revenues from third parties were not specified by region.

In 2006 Statistics Netherlands managed to attract more jobs for third parties than was originally budgeted since the ministries seem to rely increasingly on the quality and independence of the figures produced by Statistics Netherlands.

The revenues from third parties by customer:

	Actual 2006	Budget 2006	Actual 2005
Central government	5.698	-	4.531
Statistical bureaus other countries	1.858	-	2.238
Research institutes	839	-	1.071
European Union and Eurostat	1.553	-	1.453
Other	500	-	185
Total	10.448	7.255	9.478

The revenues from third parties is not specified by party in the budget.

Changes in work in progress

The 'changes of work' is the balance at the end of the year minus the balance at the start of the year.

Other revenues

The other revenues consist mainly of yields from enforcement and publications.

Operating expenses

Wages, salaries and social security expenses

	Actual 2006	Budget 2006	Actual 2005
Wages and salaries	96.357	100.768	97.498
Pension charges	10.973	13.802	13.354
Social security charges	7.389	9.066	8.772
Staff on loan	10.194	3.323	8.674
Change in provisions	809	0	-740
Total	125.722	126.959	127.558

The realisation of the total costs in this section on 'wages, salaries and social security costs' in 2006 is lower than budgeted. The number of employees leaving Statistics Netherlands at the end of 2005 was greater than expected, thanks to the Remkesregeling.

The total wages and salaries paid, including pension and social security charges also fell, as did the average number of employees in 2006 compared to 2005. The lower pension charges are caused by lower pension premium rates.

The lower social security charges are due to the new care system in 2006 and lower insurance rates for unemployment and occupational disability benefits (WW and WIA).

The vacancies that turn out to be difficult to fill meant that more temporary staff had to be hired. This is shown in the higher number 'staff on loan' than what was in the budget.

The change in provisions is the balance of the payments given and the drop in personnel provisions due to employees leaving the Bureau or changing jobs.

The average number of employees in 2006 and 2005 is shown in the table below. There are no employees working outside the Netherlands.

	2006	2005
Average number of employees (in fte)	2.112	2.203

Emoluments of the Executive Board and the Central Commission for Statistics

In 2006 the emoluments of the Executive Board was 527 thousand euro, consisting of gross salaries, employer's charges, pension contributions and expenses. In 2005 this was 687 thousand euro. The decrease is due to the change in the Executive Board from three to two members.

On 22 December 2004 the Minister of Economic Affairs set the emoluments for the members of the CCS: for the nine CCS members on 2006 this was 93 thousand euro, including expenses and VAT. In 2005 the amount was also set at 93 thousand euro. The amount is paid out of the budget of Statistics Netherlands. The Dutch law on the disclosure of publicly funded high incomes (WOPT) came into force on 1 March 2006.

Report in compliance with the WOPT:

Position: Director General

	2006	2005
Taxable income (x 1.000 euro)	154	140
Employers and employees contribution to pension (x 1.000 euro)	31	31
Hours contracted per week	36	36

The remuneration of the Director General is determined by the Minister of Economic Affairs on the recommendation of the CCS chair.

Other operating expenses

	Actual 2006	Budget 2006	Actual 2005
Housing	15.156	15.140	15.328
Other personnel	5.848	5.351	6.545
Office expenses	4.970	5.408	5.533
Travel	3.212	3.392	3.304
Consulting expenses	3.895	3.731	4.072
ICT	3.393	3.243	3.055
Addition to provisions	1.967	2.000	965
Other expenses	2.561	2.498	1.568
Total	41.002	40.763	40.370

The realisation of other operating expenses is not substantially different from the budget.

Housing includes rent, energy costs and costs related to the premises such as security, cleaning and running the canteen.

Other personnel includes mainly the costs for training costs for the Arbodienst, child care facilities, hiring and selection. The other personnel costs are higher than budgeted for 2006, especially due to the expenditure on the project started in 2006 to intensify hiring and job market communication.

Office expenses are costs for mailing, copiers and phone services. The office costs are lower than budgeted because the actual telephone and mailing costs turned out to be lower.

The payments to provisions concerns payments to the provision for assurance for own risk and an expected claim from Eurostat.

The 'other' of other operating expenses consists of costs for statistical source material.

Financial income and expenses

Interest income

The increased revenues from interest in 2006, from deposits made, are caused by the vast increase in short term interest rates and the higher volume of liquidities placed in the deposits.

Assets and commitments not included in the balance sheet

Long-term financial obligations

	2007	2008-2011	2012 onwards
Voorburg and Heerlen offices rent	9.496	30.971	25.114
Utilities and security services	6.495	13.931	0
ICT	2.108	0	0
Personnel	2.157	953	0
Total	20.256	45.855	25.114

The rent contracts for the Voorburg and Heerlen premises end at the time of the actual moving into the new location. The rental contract for the new Leidschenveen (The Hague) premises is for a maximum of fifteen years, until 2023.

The 'personnel' obligation includes care facilities for children and the Arbo Unie. In December 2006 Statistics Netherlands signed a contract for a loan of 30 million euro at the Ministry of Finance to finance the relocation. The loan will have 3 December 2007 as its starting date. The loan consists of three parts, varying between five and fifteen years. The Ministry of Economic Affairs is the underwriter, as the Ministry of Finance requires.

Assets

The municipality of The Hague has conditionally committed 1 million euro as a maximum contribution to the furnishing costs of the new office.

The project developer has also committed itself to a one-off contribution of 1.7 million euro to the relocation provided Statistics Netherlands will relocate to Leidschenveen.

Claims

Statistics Netherlands developed software under the name of Blaise, for the purpose of carrying out its core task. A party is of the opinion that Statistics Netherlands should not be allowed to market this software and has filed a complaint with the NMA (the competition authorities). The NMA has rejected the complaint but the party has started civil proceedings at the court in The Hague.

Voorburg/Heerlen, 23 March 2007

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF STATISTICS NETHERLANDS
G. van der Veen

CENTRAL COMMISSION FOR STATISTICS
J.N. van Lunteren, chair

J.J. van Duijn, deputy chair

members:

Prof. J. van Doorne-Huiskes

G.J. Hogeweg

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M.B.G.M. Oostendorp

P.C. Plooi-Van Gorsel

Prof. C.G.M. Sterks

Prof. J.T.M. van der Zee

Other information

Appropriation of profit

The proposal is to add the result to equity.

Auditor's report

See next page.

Auditor's Report

To the Director General of Statistics Netherlands

Task

We have audited the accompanying financial statements 2006 of Statistics Netherlands, located in Voorburg, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2006, the profit and loss account for the year then ended and the notes.

Management's responsibility

Management of Statistics Netherlands is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for the preparation of the management board report, both in accordance with the financial reporting principles generally accepted in the Netherlands. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law. This law requires that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control of Statistics Netherlands. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management of Statistics Netherlands, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

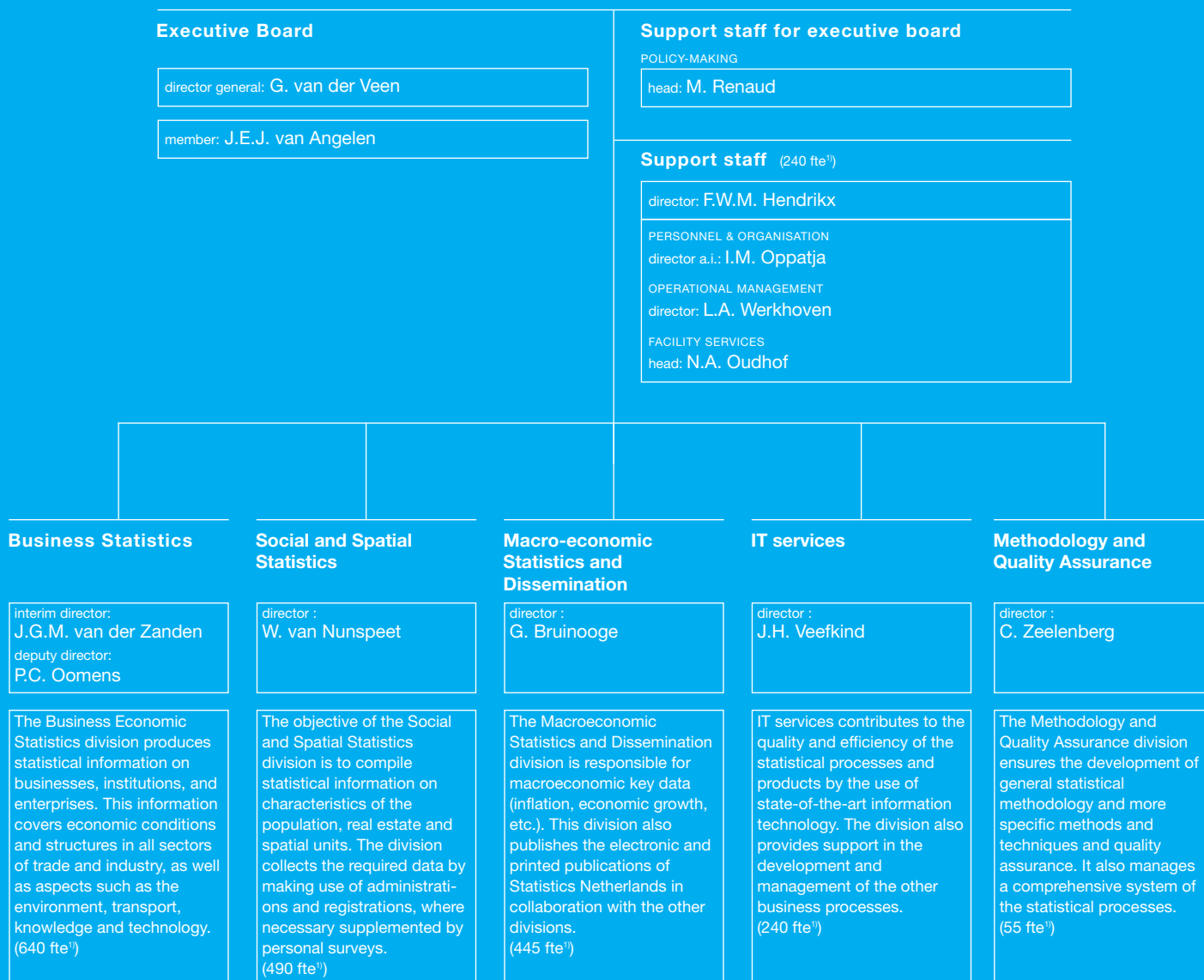
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Statistics Netherlands as at 31 December 2006, and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in the Law of Statistics Netherlands and the agreements made with the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Furthermore, we report, to the extent of our competence, that the management board report is consistent with the financial statements.

The Hague, 23 March 2007
KPMG ACCOUNTANTS N.V.
J.A.A.M. Vermeeren RA

Organisation



Advisory bodies

Six new advisory bodies were designated in 2004 to advise Statistics Netherlands on the details of the statistical programme, each of which has expertise in one specific field. The chairmen of the six advisory boards and the directors of the four planning bureaus constitute a coordinating body to advise the director-general.

Composition of coordinating advisory body

Professor B. van Ark, chairman of the advisory body on Macroeconomic statistics
 Professor W. Derksen, director of the Netherlands Institute for Spatial Research (RPB)
 Dr. C.N. Teulings, director of the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB)
 Professor N.D. van Egmond, director of the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (MNPB/RIVM)
 Professor P. Ester, chairman of the advisory body on society and the economy
 Professor L.H. Hoogduin, chairman of the advisory body on prices
 Professor C.J. Japma, chairman of the advisory body on economics statistics
 Professor P. Schnabel, director of the Social and Cultural Planning Office of the Netherlands (SCP)
 L.J.E. Smits, chairman of the advisory body on ICT and methodology
 Professor J.J.M. Theeuwes, chairman of the advisory body on social statistics
 G. van der Veen, chairman of the coordinating advisory body
 P.N.J. Spannenburg, secretary of the coordinating advisory body (psng@cbs.nl)

¹⁾ Approximate number of staff on 31 December 2005, excluding temporary staff (interim staff, agency staff, work-placements, etc.).

Hard-copy publications

Armoedebereicht 2006 * (Poverty monitor 2006)
 Assurantie Jaarboek 2006 * (Assurance yearbook 2006)
 Barometer 2006 1 t/m 4 * (Barometer 2006 1-4)
 Bevolkingsprognose (Pearl publicatie) 2006 * (Population forecast 2006)
 Bevolkingstrends 2006 1 t/m 4 (Population trends 2006 1-4)
 Brandweerstatistiek 2005 (Fire brigade statistics 2005)
 Criminaliteit en rechtshandhaving 2003 * (Crime and law enforcement 2003)
 De Digitale economie 2005/2006 and The Digital Economy 2005/2006
 De Nederlandse conjunctuur 2006 1 t/m 4 and The Dutch Economy 2006 1-4
 De Nederlandse economie 2005 and The Economy of the Netherlands 2005
 Demografische kerncijfers per gemeente 2006 (Demographic key figures by municipality 2006)
 Discussion paper 05010 Longitudinal analysis in statistical offices 2004
 Duurzame energie in Nederland 2005 (Renewable energy in the Netherlands 2005)
 E-government in Nederland (E-government in the Netherlands)
 Emancipatiemonitor 2006 * (Emancipation monitor)
 Gezondheid en zorg in cijfers 2006 (Health and care in figures 2006)
 Goederennaamlijst * Commodity Nomenclature
 Het Nederlandse ondernemingsklimaat in cijfers 2005 (The Dutch business climate)
 Integratiekaart 2006 * (Integration Monitor 2006)
 Jaarboek Onderwijs in cijfers 2006 (Education Yearbook in figures 2006)
 Kennis en economie 2006 (Knowledge and the economy 2006)
 Kwartaalbericht Detailhandel 2006 1 t/m 4 * (Quarterly retail trade report 2006 1-4)
 Land- en tuinbouwcijfers t/m 2005 * (Agricultural and horticultural figures 2005)
 Landelijke natuurmeetnetten van het NEM in 2005 (National NEM nature measurement nets 2005)
 Nationale rekeningen 2005 and National Accounts of the Netherlands 2005
 Rapportage Sport 2005 * Sport report 2005
 Rechtspraak in Nederland 2005 (Administration of justice in the Netherlands 2005)
 Regionale bevolkings- en allochtonenprognose 2005-2025 * (Regional population and immigration forecast 2005-2025)
 Sociaal-economische trends 2006 1 t/m 4 (Socioeconomic trends 2006 1-4)
 Statistisch jaarboek 2006 and Statistical Yearbook 2006
 Sluitende Aanpak 2005 (Proper approach 2005)
 Toerisme en recreatie in cijfers 2006 (Tourism and recreation in figures 2006)
 Toerisme in Nederland 2005 (Tourism in the Netherlands 2005)
 Vakanties van Nederlanders 2005 (Holidays of the Dutch 2005)
 Veiligheidsmonitor, Rijk 2006, Landelijke rapportage 2006 (Security monitor, national report 2006)
 Veiligheidsmonitor, Tabellen rapport 2006 (Security monitor, Tables report 2006)
 Veiligheidsmonitor, vragenlijst 2006 (Security monitor, questionnaire 2006)
 Verzekerd van cijfers 2004 * (Assured of figures 2004)
 Zorgrekeningen 1998 - 2004 (Care accounts 1998-2004)

Centre for Policy Statistics reports

Beloningsverschillen verklaard? 2006 (Differences in remuneration explained?)
 Vanuit de uitkering naar werk 2005 (From benefits to work 2005)

Online

Conjunctuurbericht 2006 and Business Cycle monitor 2006
 Conjunctuurkompas 2006 (Economic compass 2006)
 Dienstenmonitor (Services monitor)
 Figures on the investment climate in the Netherlands (summary) 2005 *
 Horecamonitor (Hotel and Restaurant monitor)
 Industriemonitor * (Manufacturing monitor)
 Methodenrapport verkeersemissies (Method report on emissions by traffic)
 Milieu- en Natuurcompendium t/m 2005 * (Environment and nature compendium up to 2005)
 Milieurekeningen 2005 (Environmental accounts 2005)
 Provincie op maat 2004 (Provincial data 2004)
 Statistisch bulletin 2005 and Statistical Bulletin 2005
 Webmagazine (diverse onderwerpen) and Webmagazine (various topics)

Cartograms

Indeling in 12 provincies (1:400.000) 2006 * Classification in 12 provinces (1: 400,000) 2006
 Indeling in 12 provincies (1:800.000) 2006 * Classification in 12 provinces (1: 800,000) 2006
 Indeling in 129 economisch-geografische gebieden (1:400.000) 2006 * Classification in 129 economic-geographic regions (1:400.000) 2006
 Indeling in 129 economisch-geografische gebieden (1:800.000) 2006 * Classification in 129 economic-geographic regions (1:800.000) 2006
 Indeling in 40 COROP-gebieden (1:400.000) 2006 * Classification in 40 COROP areas (1:400.000) 2006
 Indeling in 40 COROP-gebieden (1:800.000) 2006 * Classification in 40 COROP areas (1:800.000) 2006
 Indeling in stadsgewesten en stedelijke agglomeraties (1:400.000) 2006 * Classification in urban conglomerates (1:400.000) 2006
 Indeling in stadsgewesten en stedelijke agglomeraties (1:800.000) 2006 * Classification in urban conglomerates (1:800.000) 2006

* Publications with an * were made in collaboration with others.
 Titles between parentheses () are available in Dutch only

Statistics Netherlands collects data on individuals, businesses and institutions. The data are then processed into statistical information about groups of people, about their environment and about businesses. Statistics Netherlands makes the results available to everyone as soon as possible in several ways.

The website (www.cbs.nl)

The website offers free access to the results produced by Statistics Netherlands. All figures are published in the StatLine databank. The website provides the key figures about the Netherlands, press releases, the weekly Webmagazine, web articles and other new publications, products catalogues, policy information, and links to national statistical institutes and relevant international organisations.

Press office

The press information desk can be reached by telephone +31 70 337 44 44 or e-mail: persdienst@cbs.nl.

NOS-teletekst

Teletext page 506 provides information on key economic indicators while page 507 contains recently published data.

Infoservice

The central information desk for general questions about Statistics Netherlands and its products can be reached by telephone 00 31 88 570 70 70, fax +31 70 337 59 94 or by filling in the web form on the website www.cbs.nl/information.

CBS Contact Centre

The central information desk for businesses, institutions and individuals for questions about Statistics Netherlands questionnaires or other survey material can be reached by telephone +31 45 570 6400 (on weekdays from 9 to 5), by email: contactcenter@cbs.nl or website: www.cbs.nl/contactcenter

Statistics Netherlands products

Publications are sold by the Sales department, P.O. Box 4481, 6401 CZ Heerlen, The Netherlands. The sales department can also be contacted by fax +31 45 570 62 68, or email: verkoop@cbs.nl

European Statistical Data Support Voorburg

Users can get statistical information about Europe by telephone 00 31 88 570 70 70 or by filling in a standard web form on the website www.cbs.nl/information. The information comes from Eurostat.

Centre for Policy Statistics

At the centre researchers can carry out scientific research on micro data of Dutch businesses. Research institutes may use the facility when authorised by the CBS law or after approval by the CCS. The online catalogue with available micro data files can be consulted at www.cb.nl/microdata. These files can be analysed for scientific or policy purposes, while strict security regulations apply. The Centre for Policy Statistics assists government departments and planning bureaus in finding, using and compiling the necessary information for policymaking and evaluation. Its services are not free of charge. Information can be obtained by telephone + 31 70 337 56 09, through the website: www.cbs.nl/cvb, or email: cvb@cbs.nl.



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