



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## ***Prices down in manufacturing industry***

Prices of Dutch manufactured products were 0.4% lower in November 1998 than in October 1998 and 5.2% lower than in November 1997. Prices of oil products in particular were down (-4% on October and -30% on November 1997), a consequence of developments on the global market. This had a significant effect on the overall price level of manufactured products. If we leave the oil industry out of consideration, prices would have fallen by only 0.1% in November compared with October.

Prices of food and basic metal products also fell, but much less sharply. Food product prices were 0.5% down on October, mainly because pork was cheaper. Prices in the basic metal industry are under pressure from an influx of cheap foreign steel products (-1.6%)

Prices were up in the tobacco industry (2.5%), the textile industry (0.2%) and the chemical industry (0.2%).

Prices of raw materials and semi-manufactures were 0.7% lower in November than in October and 10% lower than in November 1997.

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