



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Manufacturing production slightly up in March

In March 1999 the volume of manufacturing production, seasonally adjusted, was 1.5% higher than in February, according to provisional figures from Statistics Netherlands. Compared with March 1998 the production was 0.5% lower, but the production level in the beginning of 1998 was relatively high.

Manufacturing production higher in first quarter

In the first quarter of 1999 the seasonally adjusted level of manufacturing production was 1% higher than in the fourth quarter of 1998. This is the first increase between two consecutive quarters since the beginning of 1998. After the seasonally adjusted production reached its peak in the first quarter of 1998 it declined in the following quarters.

However, in the first quarter of 1999 the production was 1.5% lower compared with the first quarter of 1998. Although it should be stated in this respect that at the beginning of last year the production level was relatively high.

Similar developments in nearly all sectors

In the first quarter of 1999 the seasonally adjusted output rates increased in nearly all sectors of the manufacturing industry and passed the level of the fourth quarter of 1998. In nearly all sectors the production was lower compared with the first quarter of 1998. Paper and publishing was the only exception: production in this sector increased substantially compared with the first quarter of last year.

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