



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR99-145
7 June 1999
9.30 hrs

Energy use increasing

Energy use in the Netherlands has been showing an upward trend since 1990. Traffic and services in particular have been using more energy according to figures from Statistics Netherlands. In 1998 the Dutch population used about as much energy as in 1997, but as the average temperature was higher than in 1997, less was needed for heating. After correction for the temperature, energy use by households increased by 1%.

Energy use up ten percent since 1990

Between 1990 and 1998 energy use rose by 10%. Twenty-two per cent more fuel was used in traffic, while in the agriculture and services sectors 11% more energy was used. In the manufacturing industry the increase is smaller (+3%), while output in manufacturing increased by 18% since 1990. This shows that the manufacturing industry uses its energy more efficiently. Energy use by households fell slightly in this period, but the trend is slightly upward.

Households: less gas, more electricity

Households used 4% less energy in 1998 than in 1997. Household energy comes from natural gas and electricity.

In 1998 households used 5% less gas; 3% on account of the higher temperatures and 2% because of more efficient use of gas. The latter was mainly realised by the replacement of old central heating boilers by high performance boilers. The amount of electricity used by households on the other hand increased by 3%, mostly because of the greater number of electric appliances in households. More and more households use tumble dryers, dishwashers, electric ventilation systems, computers etc.

Manufacturing industry

Energy use in the manufacturing industry was half of one per cent higher in 1998 than in 1997, while output rose by 2.5%. The use of oil products, electric-

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ity and heat increased, while less coal and gas was used.

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